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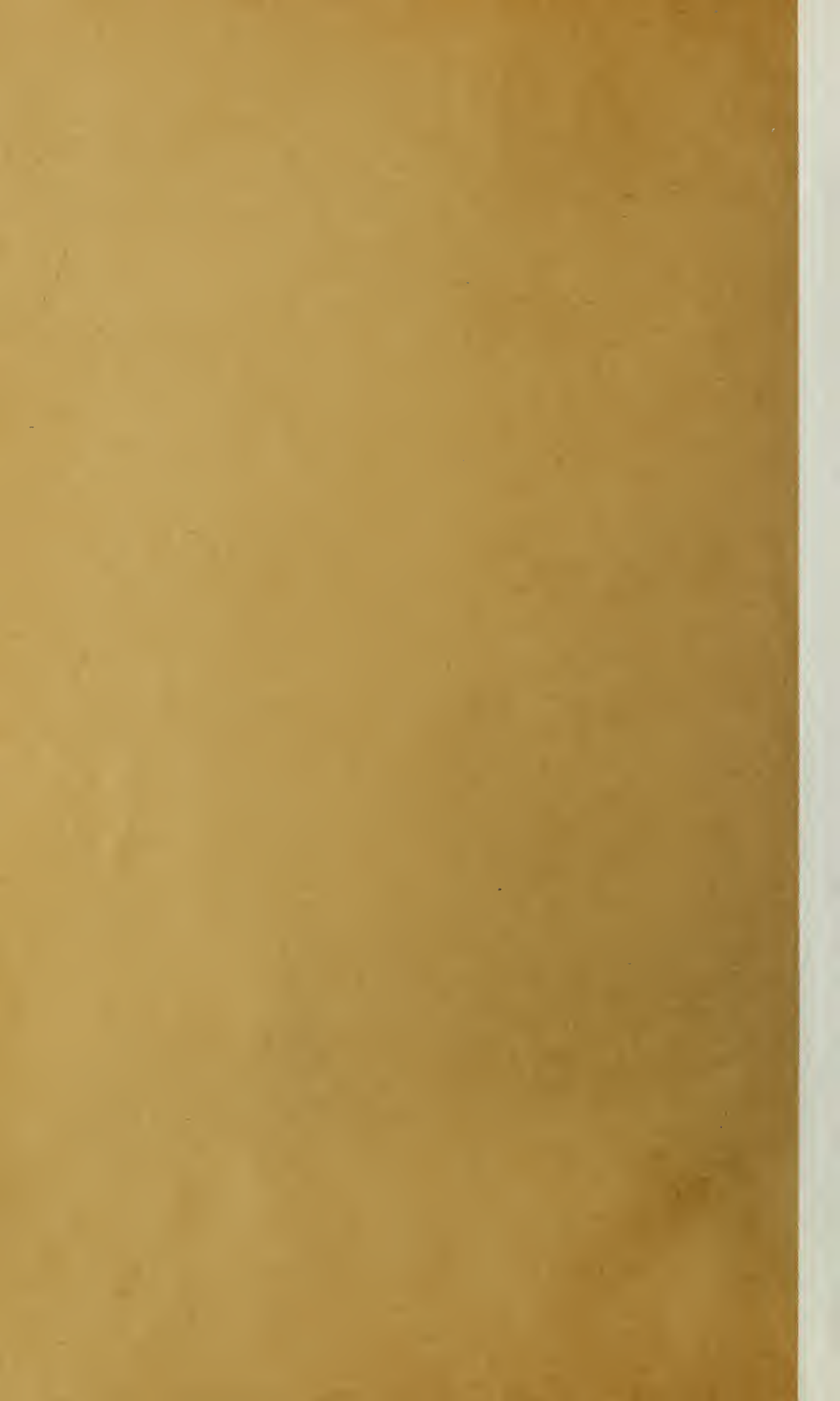
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CITY OF BOSTON—PRINTING SECTION

No. 174 NORTH STREET,

BOSTON 13, MASS.





January 12, 1956.

A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at this office, 33 Beacon Street, today, at 11 o'clock a. m.

Present: Commissioner Frank A. Kelley and Associate Commissioners Daniel G. O'Connor, Thomas J. Carty and O. Philip Snowden.

It was voted to dispense with reading of the minutes of the previous meeting.

LAND MATTERS

Berners Square. The Commission again considered the sale of park property located at Plymouth Street and Longwood Avenue, known as Berners Square, to Congregation Adath Israel as authorized under Chapter 228 of the Acts of 1954, said legislation having been accepted by order of the City Council on August 1, 1955, approved by the Mayor on August 2, 1955.

On motion of Commissioner Carty, seconded by Commissioner Snowden, it was unanimously voted that the Commission set a price for this property at \$31,500 and that the Chairman be instructed to notify the officials of Congregation Adath Israel of the decision of the Commission

Columbia Road, South Boston. The Commission was informed that this area is now in custody of the Metropolitan District Commission, having been transferred from the care and custody of the Parks and Recreation Commission by City Council Order dated December 12 and approved by the Mayor on December 16, 1955. Chief Engineer Daniel J. Byrne, Jr., submitted a plan to the Commission outlining the exact area that has been taken by the Metropolitan District Commission.

Castle Island, South Boston. A notice was read to the Commissioners which had been received from the Federal Government, Department of the Army, stating that the Secretary of the Army, under authority vested in him by Act of Congress dated May 17, 1926, has granted to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, through its Metropolitan District Commission, an easement for a right of way for the construction, operation and maintenance of a pipe line for the conveyance of sewage in and under land on Castle Island. This pipe line will run through a certain strip of land 50 feet in width more or less, running through the Government installation on Castle Island, containing approximately 127,950 square feet, as indicated on plan attached to agreement.

The Commission was informed that the Federal Government has the right of entry through this area as it is Federal property. The Chief Engineer pointed out that the pipe line which is to carry the sewage is 300 feet under the surface.

Bussey Street--South Street. It was voted, on motion of Commissioner O'Connor and seconded by Commissioner Snowden, to approve the taking, by the Public Improvement Commission, of approximately 676 square feet of land in the West Roxbury District, now under control of the Parks and Recreation Department, and that a communication be sent to the Public Improvement Commission informing them of the action of the Board. The land is required for the widening, relocation and construction of South Street, West Roxbury, at the intersection of Bussey Street.

Land adjacent to Fairview Cemetery. A communication was read to the Commission, received from Francis W. Drinan, M. D., trustee of the estate of James J. Drinan, in which Dr. Drinan offered to sell to the city a parcel of land, part of the Drinan estate, located at the entrance to Fairview Cemetery in Hyde Park

As all of the land in the vicinity of Fairview Cemetery with the exception of this parcel is owned by the City, the Commission is of the opinion that the

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purchase of the land is desirable and that Dr. Drinan be asked to name a price for it. According to the Law Department, the City may make a taking by eminent domain if the asking price is not acceptable to the City.

BOSTON COMMON GARAGE

For the information of the Commissioners, the following developments in the Boston Common Garage project were called to their attention:

A decision has been rendered by Superior Court Justice Paul G. Kirk in the ten taxpayers' suit brought by Mr. Henry Shattuck and his associates to enjoin construction of the garage for the reason that, in their opinion, it does not conform to the provisions of the enabling statute. Under the terms of the injunction handed down by Judge Kirk, the lessee, Boston Common Garage, Inc., is forbidden to start construction of the underground garage project unless the garage can be built without raising the level of Boston Common and unless a studied estimate of the cost is incorporated in the contract with the city.

The lengthy document of Justice Kirk concludes with this statement: "In the particulars stated the construction contract, and plans and specifications, fail to conform to the requirements of the statute. The respondents may, however, change and modify the contract and plans and specifications so that they will so conform. A Decree may be entered declaring that the construction contract and the detailed plans and specifications violate the provisions of Chapter 294 of the Acts of 1946; and enjoining the corporation from commencing any work on Boston Common until all plans and specifications comply with the Statute".

On December 29 the City Council passed an order requesting Mayor Hynes to consider restricting the use of the Boston Common Garage to the parking and storing of cars. The Council Order requested that no concessions of any character be allowed within the garage.

CONTRACTS

The attention of the Commissioners was called to the following award of a contract and extensions of time on contracts:

Contract awarded without advertising: "Installation of Air Brakes System on Park and Recreation Department Trucks, awarded December 19, 1955. Contractor, Charles N. Wood Co., 570 Arsenal Street, Watertown, Massachusetts. Amount, \$2,522.10.

Extension of time on contracts: F. C. Dolan & Sons, Inc., contract for "Repairing and Painting Park Benches, Boston Common, Boston, Massachusetts", extended to April 1, 1956.

Contract of William J. Banfield, 50 Terminal Street, Charlestown, for "Cleaning Catchbasins in any Park Roadway in the City of Boston", extended to April 3, 1956.

BUILDING PERMIT

The following building permit, referred to this department by the Building Department, was approved by the Commissioner: 40 Beacon Street - Alterations on third and fourth floors to provide six additional guest rooms with baths.

PARKMAN FUND

Request was made upon His Honor the Mayor, under date of December 15, 1955, for transfer from the income of the George F. Parkman Fund the sum of \$13,441.72 which was then available, to be expended under the direction of the Park Commissioner as follows: "Common and Parks in Existence on January 12, 1887, Maintenance and Improvement Of".

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BUDGET NOTES

The Chairman, the Chief Engineer and the Secretary discussed in detail the 1956 budget with the Commissioners. The Chairman stressed particularly the many difficulties that face this department in its operations. He pointed out the fact that the amounts allowed in this budget will permit us to make only necessary repairs to existing structures and properties and that very little money is allowed for new construction of any kind.

The Chairman stated that the 1956 budget for the Parks and Recreation Department, for all divisions except the Cemetery Division, amounted to \$3,793,401, but that preliminary discussions have reduced this amount to \$3,640,415. The Cemetery Division request was for \$402,564.00, which was reduced to \$348,265.00.

RECREATION MATTERS

Mr. Patrick J. Ryan, Director of Recreation, outlined to the Commission, briefly, the duties and responsibilities of the Recreation Division of this department. He stated that although we have a national reputation as far as our sports program is concerned, that is, competition in the various major sports such as baseball, football, basketball, soft ball, swimming and gymnastics, we are away behind other cities in the promotion of recreation programs in the arts and crafts, dramatics, teen-age dances, etc. The Board members were informed of what has been done in some of the larger cities of the country in regard to setting up large recreation centers which include all phases of recreation programs for indoor and outdoor events, similar to the program now started and in operation in the City of Philadelphia.

Mr. Ryan presented each Commissioner with a copy of the Recreation Division policies and instruction, with a list of personnel, their duties, and the program as it is now operated.

At the conclusion of the talk, Mr. Ryan was invited to sit in with the Board at some of the future meetings and discuss in greater length the different details of our recreation program and what can be done to improve it.

Regarding the item on the agenda referring to summer recreation appointments, it was agreed that this matter be held over for discussion at some later meeting.

CHANGES IN CEMETERY RATES

Mr. James A. Walsh, the Deputy Commissioner, was called in to the meeting at this time and he presented some proposed changes in rates for cemetery lots and services.

During discussion of these proposed changes, Mr. Baxter, the Corporation Counsel, stated that under Chapter 22, Section 9, of the Revised Ordinances of 1947, the Commission may determine charges for cemetery lots and for perpetual care thereof, but that it is the prerogative of the City Council to make changes in rates for all openings, for interments, for "Infant Mortuary" graves for infants under six months, for funerals arriving at the cemeteries after hours, special charges for holidays, for removals, for the use of the chapel, and for foundation work. These changes come under Chapter 222 of the Acts of 1949, which states that the city can not set fees and charges as a private corporation may, but that such charges must be established in accordance with laws laid down for municipalities and that, in the case of Boston, this duty rests with the City Council.

The Board voted unanimously to adopt the proposed increases in the purchase price of lots with perpetual care for 1-2-3-4 and 6 grave lots in all cemeteries, and for single graves in the Chinese section of Mount Hope Cemetery, to become effective as of January 16, 1956 as per the following schedule:-

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<u>In All Public Cemeteries</u>		<u>Present Prices</u>		<u>Proposed Price</u>	
		<u>Graves</u>	<u>Liners</u>	<u>Graves</u>	<u>Liners</u>
Single Graves without care, including liner, (Residents of Boston only)		\$ 50.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 25.
1-Grave Lot with Perpetual Care (Residents of Boston only- (complete with grave liner)		130.00	20.00	150.00	25.
2-Grave Lots with Perpetual Care, Use of Liner or Concrete Vault Required 6 x 10 feet 60 Sq. Ft. Residence in Boston 2 years required,		250.00		290.00	
3-Grave Lots with Perpetual Care, Use of Liner or Concrete Vault Required 9 x 10 - 90 Sq. Ft.		375.00		435.00	
		<u>Resident</u>	<u>Non-Res.</u>	<u>Resident</u>	<u>Non-R</u>
4-Grave Lots with Perpetual Care, Use of Liner or Concrete Vault Required,		\$450.00	\$500.00	\$530.00	\$580.
6-Grave Lots with Perpetual Care, Use of Liner or Concrete Vault Required,		600.00	650.00	720.00	770.
Single Graves in Chinese Section, Mount Hope Cemetery,		30.00		50.00	

The Commission voted unanimously to submit to the City Council for approval, through the Corporation Counsel, a list of proposed fees for other cemetery services as shown on schedule below:

		<u>Present Prices</u>	<u>Proposed Price</u>
<u>Openings</u>			
Adults	First Interment	\$ 20.00 ✓	\$ 30.00 ✓
	Second Interment	18.00 ✓	25.00 ✓
Children	First Interment	15.00 ✓	30.00 ✓
	Second Interment	13.00 ✓	25.00 ✓
Holidays	All openings	30.00	40.00
Interring Cremated Remains		10.00 ✓	10. 15.00
Device		✓ 5.00	
Evergreen		✓ 5.00	
Infant Mortuary Graves for Infants Under Six Months, Residents of Boston Only,		✓ 8.00 ✓	10. 15.00
Arrival of funeral after 4 p. m.		? 5.00 add'l.	10. add'l
Arrival of funeral after 4:30 p. m.		? 5.00 add'l.	10. add'l
Saturdays after 11:30 a. m.		? 10.00 add'l.	10.00 all 10. add'l
<u>Removals</u>			
First Removal		25.00 ✓	35.00 ✓
Second Removal Made at Same Time,		5.00 ✓	10.00 ✓
Reinterment		20.00	30.00
Second Reinterment Made at Same Time		✓ 5.00	10.00 ?

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	<u>Present Prices</u>	<u>Proposed Prices</u>
<u>Removals Made from Infant Mortuary Graves</u>		
First Interment	\$ 10.00	\$ 15.00
Second Interment	8.00	10.00
Transportation Charges from Grave to Grave, Each Box	3.00	4.00
Use of Chapel Without Heat	✓ 10.00	✓ 15.00
Use of Chapel With Heat	✓ 15.00	✓ 15.00
Foundation Charges, per surface square foot,	4.00	7.00

The meeting was adjourned at 12:50 p. m.


Secretary

February 8, 1956.

A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at this office, 33 Beacon Street, Boston, today at 11 o'clock a. m.

Present: Commissioner Frank R. Kelley and Associate Commissioners Theodore C. Haffenreffer, Thomas J. Carty and O. Philip Snowden. Also present during the part of the meeting devoted to discussion of plans for the underground garage on Boston Common were Corporation Counsel William L. Baxter and Chief Legal Assistant William H. Kerr.

Voted to dispense with reading of minutes of the previous meeting.

LAND MATTERS

Boston Common Garage. The proposed amendments to the Lease and Construction Contract between the City of Boston and Boston Common Garage Co., Inc., were brought before the Commission for consideration.

The Secretary read the communication from Robert G. Lawrence, President of Boston Common Garage Co., Inc., dated January 30, 1956, in which were enclosed an original and two copies of the proposed amendments to the lease and construction contract between the City of Boston and Motor Park, Inc., (now Boston Common Garage Co., Inc.), which were made to conform to the decision of Judge Kirk of the Superior Court.

A letter was also read, dated February 3, 1956, from the Chairman of the Parks and Recreation Commission to Mr. Lawrence, in which the Chairman indicated that the form of the proposed amendments is not satisfactory to him and that the matter would be presented to the Commission for consideration.

Another letter was then read, dated February 7, 1956, from Mr. Lawrence, in which were enclosed additional plans supplementing the ones furnished on January 30, which completed the necessary plans to conform with the decision of Judge Kirk. Mr. Lawrence stated in his letter that he would discuss the entire matter with his attorney, James D. St. Clair.

Chairman Kelley then laid before the members of the Commission the plans referred to in the communications just read. The plans are as follows:

Three plans dated January 25, 1956, being numbered 1, 2 and 3, concerning changes in the upper level, middle level, and bottom level of the garage; also five plans indicating the new design

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of the longitudinal sections of the garage, and plans dated February 2, 1956 numbered G-1A, G-2R, G-3A, G-4R, G-5R and G-7, covering the profile of the shuttle car tunnel, side and grading, vehicular tunnel, topography and utilities, boring location plan, water pipe relocations, and four additional plans indicating the changes in the roof, upper level, middle level and bottom level.

Mr. Baxter, Corporation Counsel, and Mr. Kerr, Assistant, discussed with the Commission and particularly with the Chief Engineer Daniel J. Byrne, Jr., the differences in the plans as they concern the original plans approved, to which the lease and construction contract were attached. Mr. Byrne submitted to the Commission and the legal counsel a report indicating changes as a result of a survey that he made. Following is a copy of Mr. Byrne's report:

"Boston Common Garage
Revised Plans

"Changes Noted:

"Roof of garage over entire area has been placed 6 inches below the existing grade, placing the structure itself entirely below the Common (required by Court order).

"The finish grade of the soil above the structure is designed to be from 18" to 30" above the top of the roof grade, which means 12" to 24" above the existing ground grade. This covering over the roof is made up of 6" of loam, 8" of peat. and from 4" to 16" of gravel. This does not conform with our requirements of 12" of loam, 6" of peat and 6" of gravel as minimums.

"The garage under the former plans had the top of the structure along the westerly side from 1 foot to 2½ feet above the existing grade and had ceiling heights of 8½ feet in the wings and from 9-11 feet ceiling heights in the center section. The top grade of the bottom floor slab in the wing sections still remains at grade -6.0, but the top grades of the bottom floor slab in the center section has been lowered from grade -1.5 to 4.0, i.e., 2½ feet lower. The grade of the ramps leading into the upper level of the center section, because of the drop, now enter the garage on an 11.8% to 13.0% slopes rather than the former more gentle 7½% to 8% slope.

"The design of the ventilator shaft and the southerly ramp on the southerly portion of the west side of the garage necessitated cutting the width of the ball field by 40 feet, resulting in a proposed total width of the ball field being reduced from the existing 287-foot width to a proposed 248-foot width. This means that nothing other than soft ball or Little League games may be played here, - baseball is out.

"The area of the existing ball field is 287 x 547 feet. The area of the new ball field will be 248 feet x 510 feet, impossibly narrow for the playing of baseball games. The former design compensated for this deviation by extending the ball field to a total width of 310 feet in an easterly direction.

"The garage length has been shortened from 1150 feet to 1140 feet, and in its widest width from 360 feet to 347 feet, still retaining the same setback from Beacon and Charles Streets.

"The garage capacity is now refigured at 2543 (with aisles 2736) against the former estimated capacity of 3228 (with aisles 3792).

"The revised plans do not show areas set aside for so-called concessions, as formerly.

"In general the finish grade of Boston Common when the garage is completed will be almost exactly the same as now exists, except that it will be about 12" above the existing grade.

"There appears to be no appreciable change in the design or grade of the pedestrian tunnel. The vehicular tunnel appears to show no appreciable change, with the exception of the easterly end which now enters the lower level of the centre section of the garage at a grade $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet lower than before, conforming with the change in grade of the lower level of the center section of the garage".

In the light of the discussion regarding the contemplated changes in the plans for the construction of the garage, over the original plans, it was voted by the Parks and Recreation Commission to refer the matter to the Law Department for discussion by that body with the legal counsel and engineers of Boston Common Garage Co., Inc., and such other persons as may be required.

Berners Square. The Secretary read a letter received from Atty. Samuel Silverman representing the Trustees of Congregation Adath Israel, in which he stated that the Trustees had voted to purchase the land at Plymouth Street and Longwood Avenue, known as Berners Square, at the price set by the Parks and Recreation Commission, namely, \$31,500.

On motion of Commissioner Carty, seconded by Commissioner Snowden, the Commission voted unanimously to accept the price offered and to refer to the Law Department the matter of drawing of the necessary deed, bill of sale, etc.

Mary P. C. Cummings Est.

The Board considered a letter received from Clarence F. Woodman, representing Palmer-Russell Company, containing an offer to purchase $5\frac{1}{2}$ acres of land, part of the Mary P. C. Cummings Estate in Burlington. Owing to the absence from the meeting of Assistant Corporation Counsel William A. McDermott, who is to advise the Commission on legal difficulties connected with the sale of any part of the Cummings Estate land, it was voted that the matter be laid on the table until a future meeting.

Fenway School Site. The Secretary informed the Commission that the Legislative Committee on Cities is still considering House Bills No. 900 and 1268, both entitled, "An Act Authorizing the City of Boston to use Certain Park Land for School Purposes". The Secretary stated that he had been informed by Representative Bayley that the proponents of these two bills are putting on a very intensive course of action to obtain this land, but that, as of the present time, the Legislative Committee on Cities has taken no action.

No action was taken by the Commission.

Forest Hills and Morton Street. The Commission considered the request of George Hyland, Commissioner of Public Works, to acquire certain park land in the Forest Hills section of the city for use as a parking area for automobiles of employees assigned to the Public Works Department garage and district yard in Forest Hills.

The Commission voted unanimously to deny the request of Commissioner Hyland, for the reason that the land is part of Franklin Park and is part of the continuity of the Park System. It was also the opinion of the Commissioners that it would be unwise to allow the parking of automobiles on this particular park area as the granting of one such request would be the forerunner of similar requests from other groups in the community desiring the same privilege.

Chandler's Pond Area, Brighton. The Commission voted to grant the request of the Public Improvement Commission for the taking of an easement in 450 square feet of park land in the Chandler's Pond Area for sewerage purposes

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BOSTON COMMON - PERMIT

Use of Common for Exhibition Purposes. The Chairman read a communication from His Honor the Mayor, dated February 7, and an attached communication from United Farmers of New England, Inc. requesting the use of Boston Common for a dairy festival for the period from June 2 through June 10, 1956.

After full discussion on the matter, the Commission voted against granting permission for the Dairy Festival to be held on the Common.

MISCELLANEOUS

Recreation Programs--Park and School Departments. The Commissioner discussed a communication with the Board, received from Charles J. Fox, Director of Administrative Services, regarding the outdoor recreational facilities and programs now conducted by the Parks and Recreation Department and the School Department. Mr. Fox's letter stated that School officials have suggested that the programs now conducted by their department during the spring, summer and fall, in the school yards, be made a part of the playground program conducted by the recreation division of the Parks and Recreation Department.

Mr. Fox's letter contained a lengthy report to the Mayor in which he suggested that a conference be held in the Mayor's office at which School officials and Parks and Recreation Department officials would be present.

On motion of Mr. Carty, it was voted that Commissioner Kelley and Commissioner Snowden represent this department when such a conference is held.

BUILDING PERMITS

The following building permits were referred to this department by the Building Department and were approved by the Commissioner:

- | | |
|-------------------------|--|
| 253 Commonwealth Avenue | - Change occupancy from one family dwelling to 12 apartments. |
| 40 Beacon Street | - Alterations on third and fourth floors to provide six additional guest rooms. |
| 6 Park Street | - Remove existing buildings at #4-5-6 Park Street and erect new Type I building. |

CONTRACTS

The following contracts have been awarded:

Advertised contract to low bidder: "Furnishing and Installing New Oil Fired Hot Water Boiler at Smith's Pond Playground, Brainard Street, Hyde Park, Mass.". Awarded to Seltzer & Company, Inc., 120 Harvard Avenue, Allston, for the sum of \$1,160.00.

Awarded without advertising: "Moving and Resetting Laundry Equipment at the Dover Street Laundry, Boston, Massachusetts". Awarded to The American Laundry Machinery Co., 27 Trinity Place, Boston, Massachusetts, for the sum of \$2,750.00.

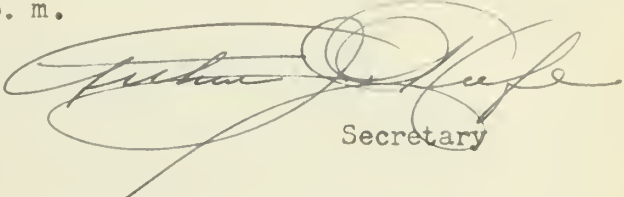
Extension of Time on Contract: Time for completion of contract of Charles N. Wood Company for "Installation of Air-Brake Systems on Park Recreation Department Trucks" was extended to February 27, 1956.

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RECREATION EVENTS

For information of the Commissioners: The N.E.A.A.U., in cooperation with the Recreation and Bath Division of this department and the American Red Cross, will conduct the Massachusetts State Open Age Group Swimming Championships at Curtis Hall Recreation Center, on Saturday, February 25. Contestants will come from all sections of New England. The meet is open to all boys and girls under 17 years of age.

The meeting was adjourned at 2;10 p. m.


Secretary

February 24, 1956

A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at this office, 33 Beacon Street, Boston, today, at 10:50 o'clock a. m.

Present: Commissioner Frank R. Kelley and Associate Commissioners Theodore C. Haffenreffer, Daniel G. O'Connor and Thomas J. Carty. Also present during part of the meeting to advise the Commission on certain legal matters were Mr. William H. Kerr and Mr. William A. McDermott of the Law Department.

The records of the previous meeting were accepted without reading.

Land Matters

The following land matters were brought up for discussion and action by the Commissioners:

Berners Square. On motion of Mr. O'Connor, seconded by Mr. Haffenreffer, it was unanimously voted to sell the park property located at Plymouth Street and Longwood Avenue, known as Berners Square, to Congregation Adath Israel, for the sum of \$31,500. The following is the vote adopted:

At a meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission held on the 24th day of February 1956, at which a majority of all members were present and voting, it was unanimously voted to sell to Congregation Adath Israel of Boston, also known as Temple Israel, for the sum of Thirty-one Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$31,500), the estate known as Berners Square,

and it was further

Voted, That the Parks and Recreation Commissioner be, and he hereby is, authorized to execute and deliver a deed of the aforementioned premises to Congregation Adath Israel of Boston.

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Boston Common Garage. Commissioner Kelley laid before the members of the Commission a letter dated February 20, from Robert G. Lawrence, President of Boston Common Garage, Inc., and also plans which were enclosed in the letter and which were dated February 13, 1956, these plans being supplementary plans amending the plans previously furnished on February 7, 1956.

The new, amended plans indicate that the baseball diamond on the Common, when reconstructed, will be substantially the same size as the present one which it will replace.

Mr. Kerr, Chief Legal Assistant in the Law Department, informed the Commission that he is now in the process of preparing new papers to be presented to the Commission. Accordingly, the Commission voted to withhold approval of these latest amended plans until a further study can be made.

Land Matters (Cont.)

Cummings Estate. Mr. McDermott, Assistant Corporation Counsel, discussed with the Commission the request of Palmer-Russell Company, realtors, for purchase of about 5½ acres of land, part of the Mary P. C. Cummings Estate, for one of their clients.

Mr. McDermott stated that the Law Department is in the process of having an appraisal made of this particular piece of property. Accordingly, it was voted, unanimously, that the matter be laid on the table until further word is received from the Law Department.

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Dewey Beach, Charlestown. Mr. Kerr informed the Commission that the Governor of the Commonwealth has just signed a bill which grants authority for the transfer of the Dewey Beach property from the Parks and Recreation Department to the Real Property Department. It was then voted that no further action be taken until such time as a copy of the official Act is presented to the Commission

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Building Permits

The following building permits were referred to the Parks and Recreation Department by the Building Department. All were approved by Commissioner Kelley:

57 Commonwealth Avenue - Change occupancy from one family dwelling and doctor's office to 16 apartments.
Request of Dave Finn.

490-496 " " - Revise entrance, change flower shop to coffee shop. Request of Hotel Kenmore.

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Contracts

The attention of the Commissioners was called to the following contracts, all of which were publicly advertised and awarded to the low bidder in each case:

Furnishing and Laying Water Pipe at the Franklin Park Golf Course, West Roxbury, Mass. Awarded to John J. Amara & Sons, 1019 Hyde Park Avenue, Hyde Park, Massachusetts, for the sum of \$7,040.00

Furnishing and Erecting Park Benches at the Public Garden, Boston, Mass. Awarded to Martin J. Kelly Co., 70 Stedman Street, Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts, for the sum of \$1,545.00

Re-roofing of Administration Building, Back Bay Service Yard, 440 Park Drive, Boston, Mass. Awarded to F. C. Dolan & Sons, 18 Aldworth St., Jamaica Plain, Mass., for the sum of . . . \$2,900.00

Furnishing and Laying Water Pipe at the George Wright Golf Course, West Roxbury, Hyde Park, Mass. Awarded to John J. Amara & Sons, for the sum of \$9,547.50

Replacing Wooden Seating of Bleachers at Parks and Recreation Department Playgrounds, Boston, Mass. Awarded to M. Solimando, 584 Columbia Road, Dorchester, Mass., for the sum of \$11,366.50

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Miscellaneous

Mount Hope Cemetery Lot. The return of Lot 5382 Linden Grove, Mount Hope Cemetery, was accepted from Mrs. Ella MacDowell of 447 Park Drive, Boston, and Mrs. MacDowell was reimbursed in the sum of \$250.00 which was charged to Cemetery Division General Fund, \$100.00, and to Cemetery Division Trust Fund, \$150.00.

Recruiting Booths on Common. On motion of Commissioner Carty, seconded by Commissioner O'Connor, it was unanimously voted that letters be sent to the commanding officers of the various military services in Boston requesting them to remove the recruiting booths from Boston Common, a reasonable length of time to be allowed for the removal.

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Fenway School Site. A report was received at the Parks and Recreation Commission office, from Representative James Bayley of Ward 5, stating that the Committee on Cities had reported favorably on House Bill #900 which, if enacted into law, would authorize the City of Boston to transfer certain land in the Fenway to the School Department as a site for school buildings.

Mr. Kerr informed the Commission that he is not too much concerned about House Bills #900 and #1268. He stated that he is hopeful of having added to the bills a provision that the authority of the City of Boston to transfer this property to the School Department shall rest with the City Council after approval of the transfer has been given by the Parks and Recreation Commission and the Mayor.

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Ev Evergreen Cemetery. The Board discussed at length the proposed fencing-in of park property which lies adjacent to the Boston College Law School and which is now held by the Parks and Recreation Department for park purposes. It was agreed that the matter be laid on the table and that no further action be taken at this meeting.

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Parkman Fund. The Commissioners discussed an editorial which appeared in the Boston Herald of February 21, 1956, criticising the uses to which the City had put the income of the George F. Parkman Fund for the past twenty years or more.

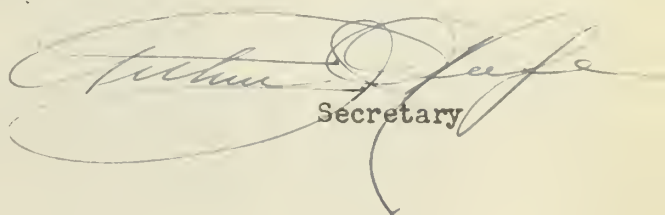
Secretary O'Keefe explained to the Commissioners that since 1932 the income of the Fund has been used for payroll payment of wages to employees engaged in maintenance of parks in existence on January 1, 1887. He stated that although the officials of the Parks and Recreation Department would prefer to use the income for park improvements, there had been no violation of the provisions of Mr. Parkman's will because the money is used for the payment of wages to park maintenance men.

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Absence of Commissioner from City. His Honor the Mayor having approved the request of Commissioner Kelley to be absent from the city on annual vacation during the period from February 27 to March 16, the Commissioner assigned Arthur J. O'Keefe, Executive Secretary, to sign payrolls, requisitions, orders, bills for payment, bonds, deeds, and other necessary papers for the proper conduct of the business of the department during the period of his absence.

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The meeting was adjourned at 1.10 p. m.


Secretary

April 3, 1956

A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commissioners was held at this office, 33 Beacon Street, today, at 11.15 o'clock a. m.

Present: Commissioner Frank R. Kelley and Associate Commissioners Theodore C. Haffenreffer, Daniel G. O'Connor, Thomas J. Carty, and O. Philip Snowden.

Voted, that the minutes of the previous meeting be accepted without reading.

Land Matters

Castle Island: The Commissioners discussed the communication from the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers offering to make available to the Parks and Recreation Department, for park purposes, the U. S. Coast Guard installation on Castle Island. This installation is now under the control of the U. S. Coast Guard.

On motion of Commissioner Snowden, seconded by Commissioner O'Connor, it was voted that the Parks and Recreation Commission would be willing to accept the 0.29 acres of land located on Castle Island and now under the control of the U. S. Coast Guard, provided that the building on the land is taken down, the site cleared and filled in and the area made presentable.

**

West End Play Areas: A communication was read from the Boston Housing Authority regarding the proposed acquisition, by the Authority, of two small tots' play areas on Wall and Poplar Streets, West End. The Housing Authority officials are willing to purchase the land, or will take it by eminent domain if we so request.

On motion of Commissioner O'Connor, seconded by Commissioner Carty, it was unanimously voted either to sell or to give consent to an eminent domain taking of the two areas at a fair market value.

**

Fenway School Site: Senate Bill #542, regarding the proposed transfer of a section of land in the Fenway to the School Department for school purposes, was read to the Commission. The Senate bill, which has passed the Legislature, changes the conditions of House Bills #900 and #1268 by adding the provision that the transfer of this property must have the approval of the City Council, the Mayor, and the Parks and Recreation Commissioners.

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Commonwealth Avenue Sign

No. 480 Commonwealth Avenue: The Commission gave consideration to the protests received from Mrs. Joseph Shortell of 478 Commonwealth Avenue, Dr. A. W. McGarry of 482 Commonwealth Avenue, and Dr. Frederic F. Maloof of 178 Huntington Avenue, regarding a sign recently erected on the building at 480 Commonwealth Avenue. These protests were originally made to the Mayor and forwarded by the Mayor to this department.

It was unanimously voted by the Commission to send to the Mayor the information contained in a report from the Chief Engineer of the department in relation to the protested sign, with a letter stating that the Commissioners are unanimously agreed that under the rules of this department and ordinances of the City of Boston there is no way that they can order the removal of the sign.

However, Commissioner Kelley agreed to discuss the matter of lighting with Mr. Hoffman, the owner of the florist shop at this location, and to offer the suggestion that the lights be shut off at a reasonable hour in the evening.

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Cemetery Trust Fund

Perpetual Care Fund, Income: The Commissioners discussed the proposal of certain city officials that the accumulated interest on the Cemetery Perpetual Care Fund be used for cemetery maintenance purposes.

Mr. Lally, the City Auditor, and Mr. Baxter, the Corporation Counsel, had been invited to attend the meeting to explain their views on the propriety of such an expenditure. However, Mr. Lally was unable to be present and Mr. Baxter, who attended for a brief time, was not yet ready to state his opinion,

Because necessary information on the subject was lacking, the Commissioners voted that the matter be laid on the table until a later meeting.

**

Return of Cemetery Lots

Voted, to approve reimbursement to the following persons for the return of cemetery lots to the city: Mrs. Gallie Shamma, Grave 7300, Section F, \$20; Joseph Sabbag, Grave 7939, Section F, \$25; and Mrs. N. Saktitty, Grave 258, Section O, \$25.00; all these graves in Mount Hope Cemetery.

**

Changes in Fees

Copies of the proposed changes in fees for services and use of facilities in the Park and Cemetery divisions of this department were given to each Commissioner for study. Discussion on the subject was postponed until a future meeting.

**

Contracts

The attention of the Commissioners was called to the following contracts recently awarded:

Constructing a Wood Float at Jamaica Pond, West Roxbury. Advertised-and awarded to lowest bidder, F. D. Dolan & Sons, 18 Aldworth Street, Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts, ... \$7,100.00

Subsoiling and Concrete Liners at Evergreen Cemetery, Brighton, Mass. Advertised. Awarded to lowest bidder, D. F. Frangioso & Co., 155 Savannah Avenue, Mattapan, for the sum of \$5,907.50

Repairing and Painting Ten Beetle Boats. Unadvertised. Awarded to Paul J. Sugrue Co., 74 Summer Street, Hyde Park, Massachusetts, for sum of..\$1,200.00

Change in Contract: Change Order #1 in contract for Construction of Laundry Addition and Alterations to Bath House, 241-249 Dover Street, Boston, Massachusetts Authorizes structural changes, cost of which is covered under "Supplementary General Conditions, Article 27", of the Keystone Contract. Approved by Architect.

Extension of Time: Extensions of time to June 1, 1956 on following contracts of F. C. Dolan & Sons, 18 Aldworth Street, Jamaica Plain, Mass. - "Repairing and Painting Park Benches, Boston Common, Boston, Massachusetts", and "Reroofing of Administration Building, Back Bay Service Yard, 440 Park Drive, Boston, Mass."

**

Recreation Report

The Commissioners discussed that part of the Municipal Research Bureau report which deals with the recreation programs within the Parks and Recreation Department. Mr. Patrick J. Ryan, Director of Recreation was present and explained to the Commissioners certain changes that have occurred in the recreation field over the years.

Although the report is not an official one submitted to the Commission for adoption, the Commissioners were of the opinion that it should be read and analyzed with the possibility that some of the recommended changes might be put

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into effect. Commissioner Kelley suggested that Director Ryan attend future meetings of the Commission and at each meeting bring up one or two points in the survey report which could become a subject for discussion. It was also suggested that eventually we might prepare a report, similar to that we now have on the Zoo which could be a basis for future development if sufficient funds are made available for the changes contemplated. Commissioner Kelley stated, and it was generally agreed by the other members of the Commission, that until such time as the city is in a financial position to go forward with these recommendations, little if anything can be done but that we should be prepared for the changes and advances that have been made and are constantly being made in recreation development.

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Miscellaneous

Audit of Cemetery Division Accounts: An audit was made of Cemetery Division accounts by the City Auditor's office. Everything was found in order, but the report recommended a few minor changes in accounting procedure and these have been put in effect.

Boston Common Permits

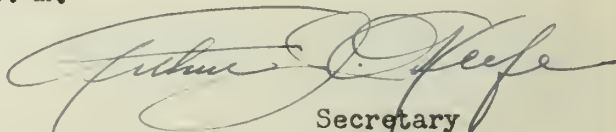
May 19, 1956. Permission granted to the Boston Junior Chamber of Commerce to hold a Road-E-O for teen-agers, on the Boston Common ball field.

May 19, 1956. Permission granted to a Signal Company (Radio Relay) and an Ordnance Unit of the Army Reserve Training Center to set up a display on Lafayette Mall, Boston Common, in connection with a demonstration program for Armed Forces Day. Two small tents and a portable antenna will be set up.

June 1 to June 10, 1956. Permission granted to the Department of Agriculture of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to use the ball field on the Common for a Dairy Festival, open to everyone free, in which they will set forth the type of program conducted by the department and showing milking machines, etc.

**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:50 p. m.


Secretary

May 10, 1956.

A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at this office, 33 Beacon Street, today, at 10:50 o'clock a. m.

Present: Commissioner Frank R. Kelley and Associate Commissioners Daniel G. O'Connor, Thomas J. Carty and O. Philip Snowden.

Voted, to accept the minutes of the previous meeting without reading.

Resolution

The Parks and Recreation Commission of the City of Boston, wishing to take due recognition of the death of Associate Commissioner Theodore C. Haffenreffer and to express sympathy to his family, it was

Resolved: That the members of the Parks and Recreation Commission learned with regret of the death on April 23, 1956 of our Associate Commissioner Theodore C. Haffenreffer after twenty-six years of outstanding and devoted service to the City of Boston through his membership on this Commission. It comes to few men to have the opportunity of giving service of so high a character. His sound judgment, wise counsel and common sense were often sought and always respected, and his public service was as edifying to all as its public benefits are lasting. The years of his active and splendid

life were dominated by a love of Boston and particularly of the park system, and during his years on this Commission he worked always to preserve and beautify the parks of his native city.

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In a more personal way the members of the Parks and Recreation Commission regret the loss of a good friend and valued associate. His wisdom, his exemplary life, his kindness and his devotion to duty will long be remembered.

It is further resolved that a copy of this resolution be spread upon the records of this Commission and that a copy be forwarded to his widow.

Reappointments

A certification of the appointment of Frank R. Kelley as Commissioner of Parks and Recreation, for the term ending on the first Monday of January 1960, was read to the Board.

A certification of the appointment of O. Philip Snowden as Associate Commissioner of Parks and Recreation, for the term ending May 1, 1960, was read to the Board.

Associate Commissioners Carty and O'Connor extended congratulations to the newly reappointed members and wished them many years of happiness in the service of the city.

Permits

The following building permits, referred to this department by the Building Department for approval, were approved by the Commissioner:

110 Fenway - Erect guidance center as per plans filed. Request of the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Boston.

380 Arborway - Erect Type VI - one family dwelling.
Request of John F. Kilroe.

Cemetery Fees

The Commission reconsidered its vote passed at the meeting of January 12, 1956 adopting certain changes in cemetery fees for 1-2-3-4-6 grave lots with perpetual care and liners in all cemeteries, and for single graves in the Chinese section of Mount Hope Cemetery, to become effective as of January 16, 1956.

It was then voted that the fees as adopted on January 12 be retained in total but that for purposes of clarification the schedule of fees be itemized, showing separate charges for 1-2-3-4-6 grave lots and for perpetual care and liners in all cemeteries, and for single graves in the Chinese section of Mount Hope Cemetery, these fees to be effective as of January 16, 1956, as follows:

	<u>Present Prices</u>			<u>Price Changes</u>		
	<u>Graves</u>	<u>Per.Care</u>	<u>Liners</u>	<u>Graves</u>	<u>Per.Care</u>	<u>Liners</u>
Single Graves without care (Residents of Boston only)	\$50.00		\$20.00	\$50.00		\$25.00
1-Grave Lot with Perpetual Care (Res. of Boston only)	50.00	\$ 80.00	\$20.00	\$50.00	\$100.00	\$25.00
2-Grave Lots with Perpetual Care, Use of Liner or Con- crete Vault Required 6 x 10 Feet 60 Sq. Ft. (Res. of Boston only)	100.00	150.00		100.00	190.00	
3-Grave Lots with Perpetual Care, Use of Liner or Con- crete Vault Required 9 x 10- 90 Sq. Ft.	150.00	225.00		150.00	285.00	

	<u>Resident</u>		<u>Non-Res.</u>		<u>Resident</u>		<u>Non-Resident</u>	
	<u>Grave</u>	<u>P.C.</u>	<u>Grave</u>	<u>P.C.</u>	<u>Grave</u>	<u>P.C.</u>	<u>Grave</u>	<u>P. C.</u>
4-Grave Lots with Per. Care, Use of Liner or Concrete Vault Required,	\$180.	\$270.	\$200	\$300	\$180	\$350	\$200	\$380
6-Grave Lots with Perpetual Care, Use of Liner or Concrete Vault Required,	\$240	\$360	\$270	\$380	\$240	\$480	\$270	\$500
Single Graves in Chinese Section,			\$30.					\$50.

Park Fees

The attention of the Commission was called to two changes in fees which were substituted in a list of revised fees for certain services and use of equipment in the Parks and Recreation Department, said list having been studied and accepted by the Commission in meeting on April 3, 1956. These changes have the approval of the Mayor and will be included in a schedule of revised fees for all departments to be presented to the City Council for adoption. The two changes are as follows: (1) the rental of the boxing ring shall be \$40 for transportation and setting up plus \$5.00 for each day of use, and (2) the rental of the piano shall be \$12.00 for transportation and \$3.00 for each day of use.

Land Matters

Joyce Kilmer Park: The Commission was informed that Mr. McDermott, Assistant Corporation Counsel, had notified this department that the Supreme Court heard appeals regarding the proposed sale of Joyce Kilmer Park, on Wednesday, May 9. Mr. McDermott stated that there can be no further action taken until such time a decision is received from the Supreme Court.

He also stated that before the Law Department can make an appraisal of this property, it will be necessary to determine the distance of the setback from Centre Street, how much of the land is actually proposed to be taken, how much will remain in the custody of the department.

Troy and Rochester Street Playground: An offer has been received from the Housing Authority in the sum of \$22,300 for this playground, which contains 7263 square feet. This area is to be redeveloped for industrial use, under the South End "New York Street Development Plan".

However, it has been determined that whereas the White Fund Trustees acquired this property in a deed from the Real Property Department and then, after developing the area, turned it over to the Park Department for care, custody and control, the Board that should be reimbursed for the sale of this property to the Housing Authority is the White Fund Trustees.

Baker, Gardner Street--West Roxbury Playground Site: A communication was read from Attorney Frederick R. Walsh, attorney and clerk for the Christian Brothers of Ireland, whose corporate name is "The Christian Brothers Institute of Massachusetts", stating that this religious community is interested in acquiring by purchase the land located in West Roxbury at Baker and Gardner Streets, West Roxbury, now held by the Parks and Recreation Department for playground purposes.

The sale of this land by the City of Boston is authorized under Chapter 264 of the Acts of 1956.

It was voted that no action be taken toward assenting to the sale of this land until the matter has been referred to the Law Department, and it was also voted that the Law Department be requested to give an opinion on the legal measures necessary to dispose of the land.

Evergreen Cemetery: The Commission discussed the request of Boston College for the purchase of land near Evergreen Cemetery and Boston College Law School, and it was voted that for the best interests of the city the land be retained in this department for use in the extension of Evergreen Cemetery

Fairview Cemetery: The Board again considered the offer of Francis W. Drinan, M. D., to sell a parcel of land located adjacent to Fairview Cemetery to the City of Boston for the sum of \$25,000. It was agreed that the land is desirable for the future extension of Fairview Cemetery and it was, therefore, voted to ask the Law Department to make an appraisal to determine a fair market value for the land.

Dewey Beach Land: The Commission again considered Chapter 76 of the Legislative Acts and Resolves of 1956, "An Act Relative to the Lease and Sale of Certain Land owned by the City of Boston in the Charlestown District of said City", this being land in the Dewey Beach section currently under control of the Parks and Recreation Department.

It was unanimously voted to recommend to the Law Department that arrangements be made to transfer this area to the Real Property Division of the city and that the land be either leased or sold by that division of the city government.

Fenway School Site: The Board gave a hearing to ten members of Boston Girls Latin School Alumnae who urged upon the Commission that serious consideration be given to Senate Bill 542 of Chapter 220 of the Acts of 1956, which sets aside certain park land in the Fenway District for construction of a new Girls Latin School provided the Parks and Recreation Commission are willing to transfer the land to the School Department.

It was voted that the matter be laid on the table until a future meeting and that, in the meantime, Daniel J. Byrne, Jr., Chief Engineer, make a survey of the Fenway area to ascertain if there is any other available land, either public or private, upon which the school might be erected.

Land Taking by M. D. C. The attention of the Commission was called to a notice received at this office stating that the Metropolitan District Commission has taken, for park and recreational purposes, under Chapter 79 of the General Laws and Chapter 558 of the Acts of 1955, the following parcels of land formerly under control of the Parks and Recreation Department:

- (1) Land situated on Irving Street in Hyde Park, containing 124,714 square feet, shown on plan entitled "Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Metropolitan District Commission, Parks Division, Neponset Valley Parkway, Boston (Hyde Park District), Plan of taking for recreational facilities under Ch. 558, Acts of 1955--January 30, 1956, Benjamin W. Fink, Director of Park Engineering". This is the land formerly known as Camp Meigs.
- (2) Land on the easterly side of Truman Highway in the Hyde Park District, containing 312,787 square feet, shown on a plan entitled "Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Metropolitan District Commission, Parks Division, Neponset River Reservation, Boston (Hyde Park District), Plan of taking for recreation facilities under Chapter 558, Acts of 1955**January 25, 1956, Benjamin W. Fink, Director of Park Engineering, being plan accession number 34543-V.T." This is the land formerly known as Truman Highway Playground.

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Naming of East Boston Stadium

The attention of the Commission was called to a notice received from the Corporation Counsel stating that the Legislature has approved Chapter 60 of the Acts of 1956, which designates the East Boston Stadium as the Manassah E. Bradley Memorial Stadium, the Act to take effect upon its acceptance by vote of the City Council.

Contracts

The attention of the Commission was called to the following contracts, all of which were awarded to the low bidders:

Advertised

Painting Concrete Swimming Pools and Fences at Ensign John J. Doherty, Jr. Playground, Charlestown, Massachusetts. Awarded to R. E. Chick, 6 Avondale Street, Dorchester, Mass., for....\$ 1,749.00

Painting Iron Fences at Boston Common, Central Burying Ground, and Public Garden, Boston. Awarded to R. E. Chick, 6 Avondale Street, Dorchester, Mass., for the sum of 3,760.00

Painting Concrete Pool at Frog Pond, Boston Common, Boston, Mass. Awarded to Carl Hyman, 148 Walnut Ave., Revere, Mass.. 1,400.00

Development of Burial Areas at Mount Hope Cemetery, West Roxbury, Mass. Awarded to J. F. Stack & Co., 1400 River Street, Hyde Park , for the sum of 23,203.00

Furnishing and Planting of Trees on Streets and Parkways in Boston, Mass. Awarded to Blueview Nurseries, 32 Gaston Street, Roxbury, Massachusetts, for the sum of 22,800.00

Furnishing and Erecting Canopy Type Baseball Backstops at Parks and Recreation Department Playgrounds, Boston, Mass. Awarded to Boston Chain Link Fence Co., 350 Adams Street, Dorchester .. 5,335.00

Invitation Bids

Spraying of Trees throughout the Park System. Awarded to Fred Ralston & Co., 47 Braintree Street, Allston, Mass. 5,500.00

Spraying of Trees throughout the Park System. Awarded to Superior Tree Service, Inc., 10 Littlejohn St., Arlington, Mass. . . . 5,500.00

Airplane Spraying of Large Tree Areas in Boston, Mass. Awarded to Stephen Hopkins Associates, Inc., 71 Proctor St., Roxbury.. 1,650.00

Service Order

Painting Concrete Swimming Pools at North End Park, Boston, Mass. Awarded to Warner W. Walsh, 33 Weybosset St., Mattapan, Mass. .. 883.00

Changes in Contract

Change Order #2, Construction of Laundry Addition and Alterations to Bath House, 241-249 Dover Street, Boston, Mass. Authorizes structural changes, cost of which is covered under "Supplementary General Conditions - Article 27" of the Keystone contract. There will be no change in the contract sum.

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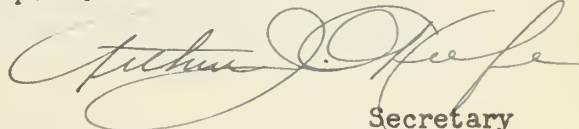
Boston Common Permits

North Sea Mine Force Association, Inc., - Memorial Services on Sunday, May 27, 1956, at 12 o'clock noon, at the Mark VI Mine Monument on Soldiers and Sailors Hill, Boston Common.

Kearsarge Association of Naval Veterans - Memorial Day Ceremonies at the Soldiers and Sailors Monument on Boston Common, May 30, 1956, at 2:30 p. m.

Veterans of Foreign Wars - Exhibit an armored car on Boston Common, on Lafayette Mall opposite West Street, from May 21 through May 27.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:40 p. m.


Secretary

July 18, 1956

A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at this office, 33 Beacon Street, Boston, today at 10:45 o'clock a. m.

Present: Commissioner Frank R. Kelley and Associate Commissioners Daniel G. O'Connor, Thomas J. Carty and O. Philip Snowden.

Voted; To accept the minutes of the previous meeting without reading.

The first act of the meeting was the reading of a note from Mrs. Theodore C. Haffenreffer in response to her receipt of a copy of resolution on the death of Mr. Haffenreffer sent to her after previous meeting.

Building Permits

The following building permit, referred to this department by the Building Department, was approved by the Commissioner:

7 Commonwealth Avenue - Change occupancy from one family to fifteen families. Request of Fred Arata.

Parkman Fund

The Commission was informed that on May 16 a request was made on His Honor the Mayor that he ask the City Council to transfer from the income of the George F. Parkman Fund the sum of \$75,000 then available, to be expended under the direction of the Parks and Recreation Commission as follows: Common and Parks in Existence on January 12, 1887, Maintenance and Improvement of...\$75,000.

Land Matters

Fairview Cemetery: At the Commission's meeting on May 10, 1956, it was voted that the Law Department be requested to make an appraisal of the property adjacent to Fairview Cemetery, which Francis W. Drinan, M. D., has offered to sell to the city for the sum of \$25,000.

Although a report on the appraisal has not been received from the Corporation Counsel, Chief Engineer Daniel J. Byrne, Jr., reported that his survey shows that this particular area contains 92,000 square feet of land and that the land is assessed for \$3,000 and the building thereon for \$3600. He also reported that on eminent domain takings it is customary for the city to pay

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no more than 25% more than the assessed valuation. The owner of this property, Dr. Drinan, has offered to sell it to the city for the sum of \$25,000, which is greatly in excess of the assessed valuation.

If we decide to acquire this property, the Chief Engineer suggests that the Commission also give consideration to the taking of two other houses and land located immediately behind the Drinan property, for future cemetery develop

Voted, that the matter be tabled for future consideration.

Fenway School Site: The Secretary reported that since the last meeting of the Commission the department has received approximately 375 postal cards from citizens of Boston urging that land in the Fenway be transferred to the School Department for the erection of a building for Girls Latin School. This is evidently the result of a campaign by the group that attended the last meeting of the Commission.

Mary P. C. Cummings Estate: The Commissioners discussed the offer of \$11,000, made by Palmer-Russell Company, realtors, for a parcel of land on South Bedford Street, Burlington, part of the Mary P. C. Cummings Estate, and also the report of Daniel M. Driscoll who appraised the parcel for the city. Mr. Driscoll placed a value of \$16,500 on the land.

Voted, that the matter be tabled for future consideration.

Mary P. C. Cummings Estate: The Secretary read a report from Assistant Corporation Counsel William A. McDermott, stating that he has forwarded to the City Collector a check of the United States District Court Registry Account in the amount of \$9,145.00, in payment of 51.04 acres of land taken from the Mary P. C. Cummings Estate, by the Federal Government, for military installation purposes. The amount of \$9,145.00 is pursuant to a vote of the Parks and Recreation Commission dated December 1, 1955 and is to be added to the principal of the Cummings Fund.

Lomasney Park: A notice from the City Clerk was read to the Commissioners, stating that on May 28, 1956 the Metropolitan District Commission took in fee and recorded with Suffolk Deeds, 10,480 square feet of land located on the northerly side of Nashua Street which had been held by the City of Boston for playground purposes. This land taking removes this department's last holding on Nashua Street.

McConnell Park, Dorchester: The Chairman and the Chief Engineer discussed with the Commissioners the land taking on McConnell Park, Dorchester, by the Commonwealth, for the new throughway. The area taken in fee is 127,500 square feet.

The Commissioners were also informed that a permit was granted to the Wes-Julian Construction Corporation, Dedham, Massachusetts, by the Building Department and approved by this department, to store four 3000-gallon tanks containing flammable fluids, on the McConnell Park area still remaining to us. The Corporation has filed a bond in the amount of \$35,000 conditioned, among other things, upon the removal of the tanks in question at the termination of the Corporation's occupancy and also the restoration of the field house to a condition as good as when it was given to the Wes-Julian Corporation for use during construction period.

Land Taking, Roxbury District: The Commission was informed that since the last meeting assent was given by this department to the Public Improvement Commission to make a taking of 4939 square feet of land under the control of the Parks and Recreation Department, situated on the southwesterly lines of Joslin Road, for the purpose of laying out and constructing Joslin Road, Roxbury between Brookline Avenue and Pilgrim Road.

Garvey Playground, Dorchester: The Commissioners were informed that the Senate Ways and Means Committee has approved a bill authorizing the Metropolitan District Commission to spend \$75,000 for facilities at Garvey Playground, Neponset. In general, the State will drain the land, repair the field house and the bleachers and ball field, when the thoroughway has been completed.

Boston Common Garage: The Commissioners were informed of the latest developments on the Boston Common Garage Project: (1) Mayor Hynes has indicated that the Boston Common Underground Garage might not become a reality for $3\frac{1}{2}$ years or more; (2) a communication was read, received from William Stanley Parker on behalf of named proposers, concerning the way in which motors should enter and leave the garage; (3) a communication was read from Gael Mahoney, President of the Beacon Hill Civic Association, containing suggestions regarding construction of entrance and exit ramps to the proposed garage, it being the opinion of Association members that entrance and exit should be on the east side of Charles Street instead of as presently designed.

Memorial Park Site: Chief Engineer Daniel J. Byrne, Jr., reported that he has been studying various sections of the Park Department that might be suitably named in honor of the late Commissioner Theodore C. Haffenreffer. Among places suggested were two or three locations in the hilly section of the Arnold Arboretum, the Rose Garden in Franklin Park, the Rose Garden and adjacent areas in the Fenway, the section of the Fenway upon which the erection of Girls Latin School was contemplated, Commonwealth Avenue from Arlington Street to Massachusetts Avenue, and the main walk of the Public Garden from Arlington Street to Charles Street including the bridge over the pond.

Of these locations, the Commissioners were of the unanimous opinion that the center walk of the Public Garden would be the most suitable one as it is better known and more widely used than the others and is a section that for many years Mr. Haffenreffer traversed to and from the meetings of the Commission.

The Commissioners voted to lay the matter on the table until a future meeting, when it could be discussed with a representative of the family, probably Theodore C. Haffenreffer, Jr.

Joyce Kilmer Park: The Commission again discussed the proposed sale of land known as Joyce Kilmer Park, and it was voted to request the Law Department to make an appraisal of the land to determine its sale value.

Chestnut Hill Avenue and Commonwealth Avenue. The Commission again considered the proposed sale of park land located at the junction of Commonwealth Avenue and Chestnut Hill Avenue containing 66,762 square feet. Under date of February 18, 1955 the Commission voted that before taking any action on a request for the purchase of this property, the Law Department be asked to ascertain from other city departments whether any of them was interested in acquiring this property. The departments reported that they were not interested in the land.

Accordingly, the Law Department had an appraisal made by Earl R. Barnard, 232 Bay State Road, Boston, on an approximate area of 64,335 square feet, which is 2427 square feet less than the total area. It was decided that 2427 square feet be retained by the city for the purpose of widening the two intersecting streets as an aid to traffic.

The appraiser submitted an estimate of \$2.50 per square foot, or approximately \$160,000 for the tract of 64,335 square feet.

It was therefore

Voted, that a letter be addressed to His Honor the Mayor recommending that the park land at Chestnut Hill Avenue and Commonwealth Avenue be offered for sale at public auction for an upset price of \$160,000.

Barrier Fence on Commonwealth Avenue: The Commission considered the recommendation of Boston Traffic Commission that a pedestrian barrier fence be erected on Commonwealth Avenue between Hereford Street and Massachusetts Avenue.

Voted, that the matter be laid on the table.

Boston Common: A request was received from the Boston Herald-Traveler through the manager of classified advertising, Robert N. Farren, asking permission for the erection of a temporary house on Boston Common to remain there during the National Home Week of the Home Builders Association of Greater Boston, September 15 through the 23rd.

The Commission is of the opinion that this project is advertising and sales promotion of nationally advertised products and that to grant the request would be an opening wedge for many similar promotions. It was therefore voted to deny the request.

Contracts

The Commission was informed that the following contracts were awarded since the last meeting and that certain extensions of time and changes in contracts were made:

Contracts

Repairing and Painting the Pandana Greenhouse, Franklin Park, West Roxbury, Massachusetts. Contractor, Dorchester Plate & Window Glass Co., 270 Adams Street, Dorchester, Mass. \$ 6,742.00

Grading and Park Benches at John F. Donovan Park, Dorchester, Mass. Contractor, F. C. Dolan & Sons Co., 18 Aldworth Street, Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts 6,007.50

Furnishing and Installing a New Hot Water Heating Boiler at the Pinebank Building, West Roxbury, Mass. Contractor, M. J. Flaherty Co., 29 Wareham Street, Boston, Mass. 1,672.00

Furnishing and Erecting Wire Fences and Ornamental Iron Gates at Evergreen Cemetery, Commonwealth Avenue, Brighton, Massachusetts. Contractor, P. J. Dinn & Co , 60 Freeport Street, Dorchester . . . 7,381.45

Reconstruction of Existing Play Areas at Ripley Playground, Dorchester, Mass. Contractor, M. Solimando, 584 Columbia Road, Dorchester, Massachusetts 34,744.00

Roping and Staking Playgrounds. Contractor, F. C. Dolan & Sons, Inc., 18 Aldworth Street, Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts. 4,970.00

Furnishing and Operating Floodlight Equipment on a Rental Basis. Contractor, Lashua Portable Lighting Equipment, Inc., 594 Washington Street, Stoughton, Massachusetts 5,700.00

Extensions of Time on Contracts:

Constructing a Wood Float at Jamaica Pond, West Roxbury, Mass. Contractor, F. C. Dolan & Sons, Inc. Time extended to August 1, 1956.

Reroofing of Administration Building, Back Bay Service Yard, 440 Park Drive, Boston, Mass. Contractor, F. C. Dolan & Sons, Inc. Time extended to July 2, 1956.

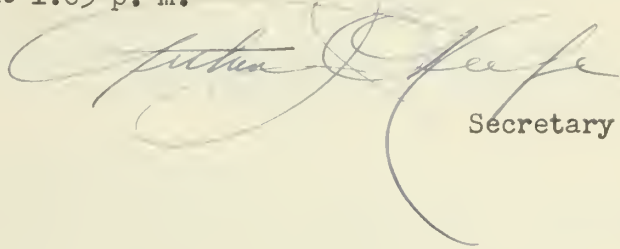
Repairing and Painting Park Benches, Boston Common, Boston, Mass. Contractor, F. C. Dolan & Sons, Inc. Time extended to July 2, 1956.

Change in Contract: Construction of Laundry Addition and Alterations to Bath House, 241-245-249 Dover Street, Boston, Mass. Contractor, Keystone

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Construction Company, 148 State Street, Boston, Massachusetts, -
Authorizing proper distribution of monies under "Allowance" items -
no change in contract price.

The meeting was adjourned at 1.05 p. m.


Secretary

August 28, 1956.

A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at this office, 33 Beacon Street, today, at 10:30 o'clock a. m.

Present: Commissioner Frank R. Kelley and Associate Commissioners Daniel G. O'Connor, Thomas J. Carty and O. Philip Snowden, also Daniel J. Byrne, Jr., Chief Engineer, and Arthur J. O'Keefe, Executive Secretary.

Also present to attend a hearing regarding the erection of signs in the Kenmore Square section of the city were Attorney John Monahan, 1 State Street, Boston; Dr. & Mrs. A. W. McGarry of 482 Commonwealth Avenue, and Shortell of 478 Commonwealth Avenue.

Voted to dispense with the reading of minutes of previous meeting.

Public Hearing - Commonwealth Ave. Signs

The first order of business was a public hearing granted on request of Mr. Frank A. McDonald, Jr., President of the Commonwealth Avenue Citizens Committee, to allow the Committee to voice their objections to the location of a dress shop at 484 Commonwealth Avenue and the erection of a neon sign on the shop, and also the erection of a large sign on the Hotel Kenmore reading "Kenmore Coffee House".

Attorney Monahan spoke for the group and stated that because notice of the hearing had been received so late they were unable to have all those present who are interested in the matter. Mrs. McGarry spoke at length, voicing her objections to the erection of signs in the location of the homes in this particular section of Commonwealth Avenue.

Attorney Monahan then requested that the protestants be granted a hearing at a later date.

The Commissioners voted that a meeting be held at this office on September 13, at 11 o'clock a. m., at which a hearing will be granted to opponents to, and proponents for, the erection of the above-mentioned signs in Kenmore Square.

Transfer of Boston Parkways

The Commission studied Chapter 581 of the Acts of the Legislature - An Act authorizing and directing the Metropolitan District Commission to take over the care, control and maintenance of certain public ways and parkways in the cities of Boston, Malden, Medford and Revere, and in the Town of Brookline.

Voted, that the matter be laid on the table until such time as Commissioner Kelley and Chief Engineer Byrne have an opportunity to discuss this matter in detail with the Metropolitan District Commissioner, particularly regarding the rights of the Parks and Recreation Department of Boston.

The Commission discussed a request of the Public Improvement Commission for the widening and construction of Perkins Street, West Roxbury district, between Prince Street and Francis Parkman Drive, as shown on plan marked "City of Boston, Perkins Street, West Roxbury, August 7, 1956, George G. Hyland, Commissioner of Public Works".

Voted, to approve the request of the Public Improvement Commission to proceed with this work, under the condition that the street be placed back in a condition as good as now exists and, further, that the wall bordering the street be replaced and reconstructed to the satisfaction of the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Museum of Fine Arts - Parking Area

The Commission considered the request of the law firm, Nutter, McClennen & Fish, on behalf of its client, the Museum of Fine Arts, for an extension of the present parking area adjacent to the Museum in a northwesterly direction along Museum Road to the boundary of its land adjoining the Fenway, all of which land is owned by the Museum.

Voted, to approve the construction of additional parking space in the Fenway district adjacent to the Museum, under the condition that there shall be no entrance from the Parkway and that the area will be used only for the parking of Museum employees' cars and for purposes incidental to the Museum's charitable activities, and that the parking area will be designed to harmonize with the present landscaping of nearby park areas and with the Museum grounds.

Use of Fenway Areas for School Athletics

A communication was read to the Commissioners, from the Secretary of the Boston School Committee, regarding the development of certain areas in the Fenway for athletic purposes of Boston Latin, Boston English, and Technical high schools. The area in question is a 12-acre plot bordered on one side by Park Drive and on the other three sides by Muddy River.

Voted, that the matter be given every consideration and that the Secretary of the School Committee be so notified.

Chapter 431 - Construction Laws

Chapter 431 of the Acts of the Legislature was read to the Commission - An Act to Require Cities and Towns to Shore Trenches on Construction Projects.

Parkman Fund

The Commission was informed that request was made as of August 2, that the City Council transfer from the income of the George F. Parkman Fund the sum of \$33,000 then available, to be expended under the direction of the Parks and Recreation Commissioner as follows: "Common and Parks in Existence on January 12 1887, Maintenance and Improvement of,...\$33,000.00.

The Commission was informed that the following building permits, referred to this department by the Building Department, were approved by the Commissioner.

400 Commonwealth Avenue - Cut through party wall to Hotel Puritan to provide interconnection on fourth floor, install fire doors, remodel small suites adjacent to fire door location. Request of Somerset Hotel Corporation.

390 Commonwealth Avenue - Cut through party wall to old Hotel Somerset to provide interconnection on fourth floor, install fire doors, remodel small suites adjacent to fire door location. Request of Somerset Hotel Corporation.

8/28/56

Contracts

The award of the following contracts was called to the attention of the Commissioners:

Advertised contracts awarded, all to low bidders:

Subsoiling and Concrete Liners at Mount Hope Cemetery, West Roxbury, Mass. Bids opened August 14. Contractor, D. F. Frangioso & Company, 155 Savannah Avenue, Mattapan. Amount \$ 5,113.00

Removal of Dead or Diseased Trees in the City of Boston. Bids opened August 14. Contractor, Fred Ralston & Company, Inc., 47 Braintree Street, Allston. Amount \$22,500.00

Furnishing and Installing a New Steam Heating Boiler at the Elephant House, Franklin Park Zoo, West Roxbury, Mass. Bids opened August 14. Contractor, M & S Heating Company, 27 Causeway Street, Boston. Amount . . \$ 4,000.00

Contracts awarded on invitation bids, to low bidders:

Trimming of Trees in all Sections of the Park System. Contractor, Superior Tree Service, Inc., 15 Littlejohn Street, Arlington, Mass. Not to Exceed . . \$11,000.00

Trimming of Trees in all Sections of the Park System. Contractor, Fred Ralston & Co., Inc., 47 Braintree Street, Allston. Contract Price, Not to Exceed .. \$11,000.00

Contracts awarded without advertising:

Seal Coat Surfacing of Main Roadways, Mt. Hope Cemetery, Boston. Contractor, Jennite-Congan, Inc., 47 Braintree Street, Boston 34, Mass. Contract Price, Not to Exceed.. \$ 5,000.00

Furnishing and Planting Approximately 400 Trees, Excavating, Loaming and Staking. Contractor, Blueview Nurseries, 32 Gaston Street, Roxbury. Contract Price, Not to Exceed.. \$13,000.00

For Information of Commissioners

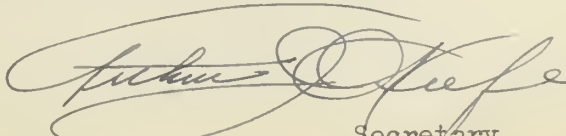
Berners Square: Deed has been executed by the Law Department, approved by Commissioner Kelley on July 24, transferring Berners Square land from the Parks and Recreation Department to Congregation Adath Israel. Check in the amount of \$31,500 has been deposited with the City Collector and request has been made by this department to the City Auditor that this money be earmarked for expenditure in this department rather than credited to General Revenue.

Transfer of Liquor License: On behalf of the Board, Commissioner Kelley addressed a letter to the Boston Licensing Board stating our opposition to transfer of a malt and wine license from 597 Beacon Street to 477 Commonwealth Avenue.

Permit to Cross Park Land: Permission was granted to the Dorchester Yacht Club for trucks to cross over park land at 100 Playstead Road, Ward 13, for the purpose of delivering flammable fluids to its property, for storage and sale.

Boston Common: Permission was granted to Civilian Defense Authorities to land six helicopters on the play field, Boston Common, on Thursday, September 6, and to take off from the play field later in the day.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:40 o'clock p. m.


Secretary

September 13, 1956

A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at this office, 33 Beacon Street, Boston, today at 11 o'clock a. m.

Present: Commissioners Frank R. Kelley and Associate Commissioners Daniel G. O'Connor, Thomas J. Carty, O. Philip Snowden and, later in the meeting, Harry J. Blake; also Chief Engineer Daniel J. Byrne, Jr., and Acting Secretary Jos. R.

Voted, to dispense with reading of the minutes of the previous meeting.

Public Hearing

The first order of business was a public hearing granted to opponents to, and proponents for, the erection of illuminated signs on the Lilian Stone Dress Shop at 484 Commonwealth Avenue and on the Kenmore Coffee House at 490-496 Commonwealth Avenue.

The following persons were recorded as opposed to the erection of the signs Dr. & Mrs. A. W. McGarry and Miss Joan McGarry; Mrs. Joseph Shortell, Dr. Freder F. Maloof; Councillor William J. Foley, Representative James C. Bayley of Ward 5 Attorney John A. Gifford, Dr. William H. Traves, Dr. & Mrs. Giblyn.

The following persons were recorded in favor of the erection of the signs: Miss Lilian Stone of 484 Commonwealth Avenue, and Mr. A. Snider of the Hotel Kenmore; also a representative of the Jim Did It Sign Company.

Commissioner Kelley asked Chief Engineer Daniel J. Byrne, Jr. to describe the signs.

Mr. Byrne stated that the application of the Kenmore Coffee House is for five signs that will be placed along the five-sided entrance to the coffee house, at the top. The signs will be flat against the building and will be indirectly lighted from the bottom. The Lilian Stone Dress Shop sign is of stainless steel with two lamps in the back. This sign is 14 feet long but the illuminated part is eight feet long.

Mr. Snider, of the Kenmore Hotel, stated that the hotel is installing a very fine coffee house in the corner of the hotel building which will seat 110 persons. He said that the illuminated signs will be flat against the building and that they do not have large flashy lights and no colored lights, just plain white lights which will illuminate no more than ordinary street lights. He said the hotel is spending a good deal of money to build the coffee shop and, although the hotel has other dining rooms, there is a demand for a coffee shop. He said alterations are completed and the coffee house is ready to be opened at the end of the month, and that they are now awaiting approval of the signs from the City of Boston. He showed pictures of the coffee shop and signs.

He also stated that the hotel pays a large amount of taxes to the City of Boston and that business expenses are constantly increasing and that the Kenmore Hotel must find ways and means of doing more business. He said Kenmore Square is developing into an important business center and if property in that section is to become more valuable, business must expand and that residents of the area must put up with some things.

Attorney John A. Gifford, representing the Commonwealth Avenue Citizens Association, then questioned Mr. Snider about the number of signs already on the Hotel Kenmore. He spoke of the signs now on the roof of the hotel, over entrances to the Mural Lounge, the English Grille Room and Lounge Bar, and other places on the building, and stated that he thought the hotel now has enough signs without the installation of additional signs over the coffee shop.

Mr. Snider stated that the present signs do not call attention to the coffee house and that this new installation must be called to the attention of the public.

Commissioner Kelley stated that, for the record, this location for which the Kenmore Hotel is making application is zoned for local business. Mr. Gifford agreed.

Miss Stone then addressed the Commission, stating that she did not know her sign at 484 Commonwealth Avenue would involve so much trouble. She said there are no lights on the outside of the sign. They are underneath it and are intended to illuminate the steps leading down to her shop for the protection of the public. She stated that she did have one permit from the Building Department which was also approved by the Parks and Recreation Department and that she thought everything was all right.

Mrs. A. W. McGarry then spoke in opposition to the erection of the two signs in question. She said there is already one glaring light (from the Hoffman flower shop) which is always flashing into her home and that they had made no protest when that one was erected, but that they did not intend to take the easy way again. She stated that at the time the concrete was being broken for outside alterations to the dress shop, she went over to the shop and inquired of the person in charge, and also of the contractor, if they had the necessary permits to do the work. She was told that everything was all right. She then called the Building Department and was told that no permit had been issued for the outside work and that an inspector would be out to investigate. The inspector did come. The work was temporarily stopped, then resumed.

Miss Stone explained that she did get one building permit and that she had made many trips to the Building Department and the Parks and Recreation Department but could find no one who could tell her anything about a permit for the later work.

Attorney Gifford stated that from records available, the only permit granted to Miss Stone was one for interior alterations and that she had gone ahead, or allowed her contractor to go ahead, with the erection of a sign and alterations to the outside of the building without any permit. He then stated to the Commission that as Miss Stone had created the present difficulties for herself, by failing to get proper authorization, he saw no reason why the Commission should now give her relief.

Commissioner Kelley stated that Miss Stone had obtained a permit for some alterations but that others were made in violation of the building rules and that this is a matter that comes within the jurisdiction of the Building Department.

Attorney Gifford replied to the Commissioner that approval is concurrent with the Building Department and the Parks and Recreation Department. He quoted Section 19, Chapter 41, of the Municipal Ordinances relating to buildings and structures erected within 100 feet of a park or parkway. He said, "Very obviously these alterations of the sidewalk and installation of these additional steps and platform are well within the province of this Board". He stated that as Miss Stone had created this situation voluntarily, herself, he did not think it would be an injustice to deny approval of the sign.

Representative James C. Bayley of Ward 5 then spoke for the people living in the Kenmore Square section of Commonwealth Avenue. He said he realizes the district is zoned for business but that he believes people who have their homes in the district must also be considered. He said these homes are very fine ones and that the owners have lived in them for many years. He spoke of the sign recently erected on the Hoffman Flower Shop, which the nearby home owners find very objectionable, and said that if there are not some restrictions, more and more signs will be erected until people are driven out of their homes. He also said he believes the beauty of Commonwealth Avenue should be preserved and he can see no reason for more signs in the locations under consideration.

Councillor William J. Foley, Jr., then spoke in opposition to the erection of the two signs in question. He stated that Commonwealth Avenue is one of the beauty spots of Boston and that in the interests of people who do business in Kenmore Square, the park-like atmosphere should be preserved. He stated that it is within the jurisdiction of the Parks and Recreation Commission to preserve this park-like atmosphere. He said that the city must try to keep what it has in that section and he believes this is one time where it would be the better part of wisdom to call a halt. He also stated that he has been informed, third-hand, that Councillor McCormack would like to be recorded in opposition to this question.

Mrs. Joseph Shortell then spoke in opposition to the two signs. She told of other sections of Commonwealth Avenue and Beacon Street that had become blighted areas because of laxity in building regulations and said she hoped the condition could be prevented in Kenmore Square.

Other objections were recorded from Dr. & Mrs. Thomas Giblin and Dr. William H. Traves. The Commissioner read a letter addressed to him from Frank A. McDonald, Jr., President of the Commonwealth Avenue Citizens Committee, asking that his objections to the signs be recorded.

Attorney Gifford then presented to the Commissioner a number of papers containing names of doctors in the area who wished to be recorded in opposition to the signs. Dr. Traves presented another list of opponents.

Commissioner Kelley then spoke of the neon sign on the Hoffman Flower Shop at 480 Commonwealth Avenue. He stated that this sign was approved on January 5, 1956, after investigation by the engineering department.

Dr. McGarry stated that if anyone made an investigation of the Hoffman sign, he never came into the McGarry home, nor other homes in the vicinity, to see what unpleasant conditions have been caused by "that horrible sign". He said it is necessary to keep windows closed and shades drawn in his home to shut out the flashing light from the neon sign.

A representative of the Jim Did It Sign Company stated that the two signs at 484 and 490-496 Commonwealth Avenue are small, refined and dignified signs.

Attorney Gifford then summed up the objections by stating that the whole controversy seems to be whether or not these signs would be detrimental to the district, or whether, as Mr. Snider has brought to the attention of the Commission, his substantial investment requires further advertising for his coffee house. Primarily, Mr. Gifford said, the Board's consideration is, "Wherein is the public best served". He said it is common knowledge that Mr. Snider's corporation pays a lot of taxes, but he said his clients also pay a lot of taxes but that taxes alone do not warrant approval. He called attention to some points brought out by his witnesses, that other parts of the city have become blighted areas through lack of building regulations. He respectfully submits that these applications for signs at 484 and 490-496 Commonwealth Avenue be denied, because the public good and the public welfare would not be better served by their installation.

Commissioner Kelley stated that the matter would be taken under consideration by the Parks and Recreation Commission.

The hearing was then terminated.

After the termination of the hearing, the regular meeting of the Commission was resumed:

Permit--Commonwealth Avenue and Boston Common

Voted, to grant the request of the National Guard of Massachusetts, 26th (Yankee) Infantry Division, to set up approximately 24 unit kitchen trucks along the center strip of Commonwealth Avenue from Hereford Street to Dartmouth Street, and approximately 12 unit kitchen trucks on the asphalt strip on Boston Common which runs parallel and adjacent to Charles Street, for the purpose of a mass feeding program of a noon meal to about 10,000 men who will take part in the National Guard's 10th Anniversary Parade, on Sunday, October 28, 1956.

Permit for Sign

Voted, to approve the request of Jim Did It Sign Company for permission to remodel and erect a sign on Hotel Fensgate, the sign to be 16 feet long and 8 feet deep.

CONTRACTS

Voted, to approve cancellation of contract with Mills Automatic Merchandising Corporation for operation and maintenance of weighing machines in buildings of the Parks and Recreation Department, at the request of the licensee, and to award a new contract, with the approval of His Honor the Mayor, to Consumers Services, Inc., 9 Belvidere Street, Boston, for a term of three years beginning July 1, 1956 and ending June 30, 1959, at an annual rental of \$350.00 and under the same conditions as in the previous agreement.

9/13/56

Voted, to approve addition to contract for "Construction of Laundry Addition and Alterations to Bath House, 241-245-249 Dover Street, Boston, Mass.", as follows:

<u>Additions</u>		
Plumbing,	\$128.00	
Electrical,	164.00	
Brackets,	40.00	Contract Price.....\$189,000.00
Steam Connect.	94.00	Additions 524.00
Fluo. Light,	7.00	
Profit,	91.00	Contract as Standing.... \$189,524.00
Total Add.....	\$524.00	

Time for completion of above contract extended to October 1, 1956.
Contractor: Keystone Construction Co., 148 State Street, Boston, Massachusetts.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:40 p. m.


Acting Secretary

September 24, 1956

A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at this office, 33 Beacon Street, today, at 11 o'clock a. m.

Present: Commissioner Frank R. Kelley and Associate Commissioners Daniel G. O'Connor, Thomas J. Carty, O. Philip Snowden and Harry J. Blake.

Voted, to dispense with reading of minutes of previous meeting.

Kenmore Square Signs

The Commission again gave consideration to requests for approval of illuminated signs at 484 Commonwealth Avenue (Lilian Stone Dress Shop) and 490-496 Commonwealth Avenue (Kenmore Coffee House).

Voted, that the sign for the Kenmore Coffee House, 490-496 Commonwealth Avenue, be approved.

Voted, that request for approval of the sign for the Lilian Stone Dress Shop, 484 Commonwealth Avenue, be laid on the table.

Transfer of Park Roadways

The Commission discussed the proposed transfer of certain parkways in the City of Boston to the Metropolitan District Commission, as authorized under Chapter 581 of the Acts of 1956, and it was

VOTED: That it be and hereby is determined to be the present intent of this Commission to sign and send to the Metropolitan District Commission, on October 29, 1956, a communication in substance:

"October 29, 1956

"Metropolitan District Commission
20 Somerset Street
Boston 8, Massachusetts

"Attn: Commissioner Charles W. Greenough

"Gentlemen:

RE: (1) the Arborway, (2) the Jamaica way, (3) the Riverway,

(4) the Fenway, (5) that portion of Park Drive which lies between Audubon Circle and Boylston Street, (6) that portion of Boylston Street which lies between its junction with Ipswich Street near Park Drive and Hemenway Street, (7) Charlesgate West, insofar as said Charlesgate West may be under the care and control of the Parks and Recreation Commission, (8) Charlesgate East, (9) Agassiz Road, (10) that portion of Perkins Street which lies between Jamaica Way and Francis Parkman Drive, insofar as said portion of Perkins Street may be under the care and control of the Parks and Recreation Commission, (11) Francis Parkman Drive between Perkins Street and the Jamaica Way at Kelly Circle, (12) Chestnut Street between Perkins Street and Riverdale Parkway Drive at the Brookline town line, insofar as said Chestnut Street may be under the care and control of the Parks and Recreation Commission, and (13) Willow Pond Road between the Jamaica Way at Bynner Street and Riverdale Parkway Drive in the Town of Brookline.

"The transfer to your Commission under Chapter 581 of the Acts of 1956 of the care, control and maintenance of the above-referenced public ways or parkways (or portions thereof) located in the city of Boston and now under the care and control of the Parks and Recreation Commission of the City of Boston is hereby approved and thereby made effective pursuant to the provisions of said chapter 581",

and it was further Voted, that the Commissioner of Parks and Recreation be, and he hereby is, authorized and directed to communicate forthwith to the Metropolitan District Commission the aforesaid intent of the Commission.

Mary P. C. Cummings Estate

The Commission was informed that a notice had been received from the Law Department stating that a check in the sum of \$2,900.00 was received from the United States District Court Registry Account dated September 6, 1956, in payment of approximately 2.40 acres of land, more or less, taken by eminent domain proceedings from the Mary P. C. Cummings Estate in Burlington. The land was acquired by the Federal Government for the housing of families of the key personnel located on property previously taken by the Army for anti-aircraft defense installations. The sum of \$2,900.00 is to be added to the principal of the Mary P. C. Cummings Fund.

Contracts

For information of the Commissioners: A contract was awarded on September 13, 1956, to the low bidder, P. J. Joyce & Son, Inc., 33 Royal Avenue, Cambridge, Massachusetts, for "Rebuilding the Little League Field at William F. Smith Playground, Brighton, Mass.", for the sum of \$14,953.94.

Change in Contract: Construction of Laundry Addition and Alterations to Bath House, 241-249 Dover Street, Boston, Massachusetts: Contractor, Keystone Construction Co. -

Change Order #5 - 225 lbs. glass installed.....\$550.00

Amount of Contract \$189,524.00

Addition #5 550.00

Contract as standing \$190,074.00

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p. m.

Acting Secretary

September 26, 1956

A special meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was called, today, for the purpose of considering two appraisals of park land known as Joyce Kilmer Park in the West Roxbury District.

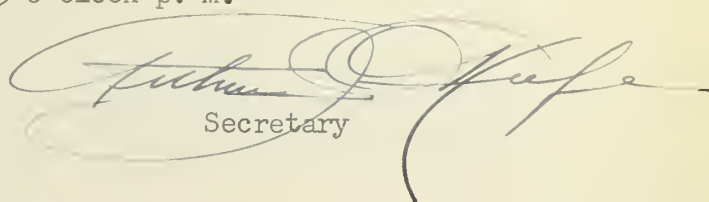
Under Chapter 36 of the Acts of 1955, authority was given to the City of Boston to sell this land to the Hebrew Home for Aged. The proposed sale of the land has been before the Commission on several previous occasions. The last record of discussion was in meeting of July 18, 1956, at which time it was voted that the Law Department be requested to take the necessary steps to make an appraisal of the land known as Joyce Kilmer Park, which contains nine acres more or less and is bounded by Center and Walter Streets.

At today's meeting the Commissioners considered two appraisals submitted, (1) an appraisal made by Earle R. Barnard for the Hebrew Home for Aged, in the amount of \$32,000.00, and (2) an appraisal made by Cassell & Cassell for the Law Department, in the amount of \$49,000.00.

Voted, on motion of Commissioner Snowden, seconded by Commissioner Blake, that the matter be laid on the table for further discussion at the next meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission to be held on October 9, at 11 a.m.

It was further voted to invite to the next meeting of the Commission, Mr. A. Paul Cohen, President of the Hebrew Home for Aged, and that he be requested to bring with him the members of his committee and also the architect for the building and that they have with them plans of the proposed structure to be erected.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 o'clock p. m.


Secretary

October 9, 1956

A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Department was held at this office, 33 Beacon Street, today, at 11:00 o'clock a. m.

Present: Commissioner Frank R. Kelley and Associate Commissioners Daniel G. O'Connor, Thomas J. Carty, O. Philip Snowden, and Harry J. Blake.

It was voted to dispense with reading of the minutes of the previous meeting.

Joyce Kilmer Park: The Commission met today with Mr. A. Paul Cohen, president of the Hebrew Home for Aged, and five members of the Board of Trustees and also two members of the architect's staff, to discuss the proposed sale of Joyce Kilmer Park to the Hebrew Home for Aged, and also the type of building which they hope to erect there.

The trustees informed the Commissioners that they plan to erect a very modern type of building which will comply with the zoning height in that area and will be set back from the street, in a grove of trees, so as not to attract attention from persons approaching the park. They also stated that they had been in consultation with Dr. Howard of the Arnold Arboretum, who will lend his assistance in the selection of the proper types of trees and shrubs for planting on the site. The trustees also agreed to retain the name of "Joyce Kilmer Park" and to erect a suitable memorial or tablet on the grounds, and they stated that anyone may visit the park and that there would be no interference with the American Legion's custom of holding annual commemorative exercises there. They also stated that they would comply with the commissioners' desire to have the park-like atmosphere retained.

After the trustees had left the meeting, the Commissioners discussed the plans for the proposed building and also the price estimates that were submitted by two appraisers. One estimate submitted by the appraiser engaged by the Trustees, which was in the amount of \$32,000, and the other by an appraiser

10/9/56

engaged by the City's Law Department, who estimated the value of the land at \$49,000. Taking into consideration that the original cost to the city for this land was approximately \$6100 in 1894, and considering the purpose for which the Trustees now desire to use the land, the Commissioners felt that a fair selling price would be half way between the estimate submitted by the private appraiser and that submitted by the city's appraiser. The amount agreed upon was \$40,500.00

On motion of Commissioner Carty, seconded by Commissioner O'Connor, it was unanimously voted to inform the trustees of the Hebrew Home for Aged that the Joyce Kilmer property could be purchased for the sum of \$40,500.00.

The Commissioners decided that if this sale price is approved by the proper city officials and the sum of \$40,500 is received for the land, that a request be made upon the City Auditor to set this sum aside in a special account to be used for park and playground improvements.

Commonwealth Avenue (Kenmore Sq.) Signs

It was voted that a building permit be approved for exterior work at the Lilian Stone Dress Shop, 484a Commonwealth Avenue, and for the sign to be erected on the shop, all building requirements of the Building Department and the Parks and Recreation Department having been complied with.

It was also voted to approve a permit for the relocation of the present sign on the Hoffman Flower Shop, 480 Commonwealth Avenue, so that it will not reflect light into nearby homes.

Baker, Gardiner and Spring Streets - Playground Site.

The Secretary read two letters to the Commission, one from Attorney Frederick R. Walsh regarding the desire of the Christian Brothers Institute of Massachusetts to purchase the park land at Baker, Gardiner and Spring Street, West Roxbury, and another letter addressed to the Corporation Counsel, by Commissioner Kelley, regarding legal matters involved in any sale of this land.

It was voted that the matter be laid on the table until a reply is received from the Corporation Counsel.

Berners Square. The Commissioners agreed that when there is a definite project for use of the money received from the sale of Berners Square, that the City Auditor be requested to set up a special fund for the purpose.

Fenway Land for School Site. The Commissioners gave consideration to a letter dated October 1, 1956, from Miss Agnes E. Reynolds, Secretary to the School Committee of the City of Boston, stating that the School Committee again requests approval of the Parks and Recreation Commission to the proposed transfer of park land in the Fenway, to the School Committee for school purposes. The sale of the land is authorized under Chapter 220 of the Acts of 1956 - An Act Authorizing the City of Boston to Use Certain Park Land for School Purposes.

After due consideration, the Commissioners remained firm in their belief that as this land was acquired for public park purposes, it must be held for such purposes. They therefore reaffirmed their position taken on this matter under dates of July 27, 1954 and on January 11, 1955 when they voted unanimously against any transfer of this land.

Roadway, -Beacon Street and Chestnut Hill Avenue.

The Commission considered the offer of Commissioner Charles W. Greenough to turn over to the City of Boston a strip of roadway 500 feet in length, extending from Beacon Street on the south to Chestnut Hill Drive on the north, across the viaduct between the Chestnut Hill Reservoir and what was formerly known as the Lawrence Basin, and to resurface the area before transfer.

The Commission voted to accept the transfer of this strip of roadway from the Metropolitan District Commission to the Parks and Recreation Department upon completion of the resurfacing of the area.

10/7/56
Orleans Street, E. Boston. Voted, that His Honor the Mayor be requested to present an order on the City Council for the transfer of 1068 square feet of land located at 32 Orleans Street, East Boston, currently under control of the Parks and Recreation Department, to the Real Property Division. This area is a small piece of land remaining after the sale of the major portion of a lot in September 1941 and is no longer required for park or playground purposes.

Dock Sq., Faneuil Hall Sq., and Post Office Sq. A City Council Order was read to the Commission, stating that portions of Dock, Faneuil Hall and Post Office squares were transferred from the Public Works Department to the Parks and Recreation Department.

Lease of Boat Yard Privilege. Voted, upon receipt of approval of the Mayor, to grant a lease of the Freeport Street land to Mr. Vernon L. Hart of 296 Freeport Street, Dorchester, and Mr. Robert E. Egan of the Bay State Boat Co., Cambridge, for a period of one year beginning November 1, 1956 and ending on October 31, 1957, for boat yard purposes, at a rental of \$160.00 for the year.

Land Takings - Hanson Street and Courtney Road.

The following notice, received from the City of Boston Public Improvement Commission, dated September 26, 1956, was read to the Commission:

"Order for the taking of two (2) parcels of land for Park Department purposes in the Boston Proper district, supposed to belong to Peter J. Salem." This land located on Hanson Street, South End.

The following notice was dated August 24, 1956:

"Order for the taking of an easement for sewerage purposes in Courtney Road, West Roxbury district, and land of the City of Boston from Russett Road approximately 320 feet westerly".

Land Taking - Carson Street Play Area.

A notice was read to the Commission, received from the Law Department, stating that the State Department of Public Works has taken in fee the parcels of land 7-48 and 7-28C adjacent to the MTA station at Columbia Circle and known as Carson Street play area. The major portion of this area is required in the construction of the southeast expressway.

Voted, that the Corporation Counsel be requested to petition the Commonwealth for reimbursement to the City for the value of the land taken.

Parkman Fund.

The Commission was informed that the Mayor and City Council had been requested to transfer from the income of the George F. Parkman Fund the sum of \$29,000 now available, to be used for maintenance and improvement of the Common and Parks in Existence on January 12, 1887.

Building Permit. The following building permit referred to this department by the Building Department was approved: Alterations to building at 413-415 Commonwealth Avenue, requested by Garland Junior College. Alterations consist mainly of relocating egress doors, building fire-escapes, and providing a parking area in rear of building for use of school.

Boston Common Permit. The Commission assented to the request of R. H. White Company for permission to land a helicopter on Boston Common on November 17, in connection with their Christmas program.

The meeting was adjourned at

Secretary

10/29/56
October 29, 1956.

A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held in this office, 33 Beacon Street, today at 3 o'clock p. m.

Present: Commissioner Kelley and Associate Commissioners Thomas J. Carty, O. Philip Snowden, and Harry J. Blake.

Voted, to accept the minutes of the previous meeting without reading.

Transfer of Park Roadways

The first business of the meeting was a discussion of problems incident to the transfer of Boston park roadways to the Metropolitan District Commission.

Present during this part of the meeting, in addition to the four commission named above, were Public Works Commissioner George G. Hyland, Traffic Commission William Arthur Reilly; Joseph O'Connor and Joseph Galliotto, Chief Engineer and Assistant Chief Engineer, respectively, of the Traffic Commission; Chief Legal Assistant William H. Kerr of the Law Department, Benjamin Fink, Chief Engineer of the Metropolitan District Commission; and Harvey Weir, Attorney for the Metropolitan District Commission.

Mr. Kerr explained the provisions of Chapter 581 of the Acts of 1956, which pertain to the transfer to the Metropolitan District Commission of certain Boston parkways, streets and highways.

The Chairman laid before the Commission a letter proposed to be sent by the Parks and Recreation Commission to the Metropolitan District Commission, reading as follows:

"City of Boston--Parks and Recreation Department
33 Beacon Street, Boston 8, Mass.

"October 29, 1956

"Metropolitan District Commission
20 Somerset Street
Boston 8, Massachusetts

Attention: Commissioner Charles W. Greenough

Gentlemen:

This communication relates to the following public ways and parkways (or portions thereof) located in the City of Boston insofar as the same are under the care and control of the Parks and Recreation Department:-

- (1) that portion of Gallivan Boulevard which lies between Morton Street and William T. Morrissey Boulevard,
- (2) that portion of Morton Street which lies between Forest Hills Street and Gallivan Boulevard,
- (3) the Arborway,
- (4) the Jamaicaway,
- (5) the Riverway,
- (6) the Fenway,
- (7) that portion of Park Drive which lies between Audubon Circle and Boylston Street,
- (8) that portion of Boylston Street which lies between its junction with Ipswich Street near Park Drive and Hemenway Street,

- (9) Charlesgate West,
- (10) Charlesgate East,
- (11) Agassiz Road,
- (12) that portion of Centre Street which lies between Veterans of Foreign Wars Parkway and the Arborway
- (13) that portion of Hyde Park Avenue which lies between Milton Street and Wolcott Square,
- (14) that portion of Milton Street which lies between Hyde Park Avenue and the Neponset Valley Parkway,
- (15) that portion of Perkins Street which lies between the Jamaicaaway and Francis Parkman Drive,
- (16) Francis Parkman Drive between Perkins Street and the Jamaicaaway at Kelly Circle,
- (17) Chestnut Street between Perkins Street and Riverdale Parkway Drive at the Brookline town line, and
- (18) Willow Pond Road between the Jamaicaaway at Bynner Street and Riverdale Parkway Drive in the town of Brookline.

"The transfer to your Commission under Chapter 581 of the Acts of 1956 of the care, control and maintenance of the public ways and parkways (or portions thereof) to which this communication relates is hereby approved as of 12:01 A.M. on Tuesday, October 30, 1956 and thereby made effective as of said hour and day pursuant to the provisions of said Chapter 581.

"For the purpose of providing continuous connection, such transfer is hereby declared to include so much of any public way or parkway intersecting the public ways and parkways (or portions thereof) to which this communication relates as lies within the sidelines thereof extended, including Commonwealth Avenue between Charlesgate East and Charlesgate West (exclusive of the bridge over the Muddy River), and including also the by-pass road between Park Drive and the Riverway.

"For the sake of definiteness, such transfer is hereby further declared to include -

- (a) all roadways within the limits of the public ways and parkways (or portions thereof) to which this communication relates
- (b) all walks and paths along, and approximately level with, every such roadway, if within twenty-five feet thereof, whether or not constructed as a sidewalk, and
- (c) all lands lying between such roadways or between such walks or paths and such roadways, irrespective of the size, shape or purpose thereof, but excluding all monuments and other memorials subject to the supervision of the Art Commission of the City of Boston.

"Likewise for the sake of definiteness, such transfer is hereby also declared to include all signals and other devices (except parking meters) for the control of traffic on the public ways and parkways (or portions thereof) to which this communication relates, all traffic signs thereon (whether directional or regulatory), all trees and plantings on lands herein declared

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to be included in such transfer, and all street lights as well as catch basins and drains servicing the public ways and parkways (or portions thereof) to which this communication relates.

"Very truly yours,

Frank R. Kelley (s)
Chairman

Harry J. Blake (s)

Thomas J. Carty (s)

Samuel J. Connor (s)

O. Phillip Snowden (s)

Parks and
Recreation Com-
mission of the
City of Boston "

Upon motion of Commissioner Carty, seconded by Commissioner Snowden, it was unanimously voted to sign the above-quoted letter and forward it to the Metropolitan District Commission.

Deed - Joyce Kilmer Park

Commissioner Kelley laid before the other members of the Commission a form of deed conveying to the Hebrew Home for Aged the park property known as Joyce Kilmer Park, the Commission having voted to sell the land for the sum of \$40,500. The deed reads as follows:

"Deed"

"In consideration of the sum of Forty Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$40,500), the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, the CITY OF BOSTON, a municipal corporation duly organized and existing under the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, acting by its Parks and Recreation Commission (successor to the Board of Park Commissioners of said City) and with the approval of its Mayor, by every authority hereunto enabling and more especially by virtue of Chapter 36 of the Acts of 1955 (which was accepted by vote passed by the City Council of the City of Boston on April 11, 1955 and approved by its Mayor on April 12, 1955), does hereby grant to the Hebrew Home for Aged, a charitable corporation organized and existing under the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the parcel of land in the West Roxbury section of said City commonly known as Joyce Kilmer Park and bounded by Centre Street, Walter Street and land now or formerly of The President and Fellows of Harvard College, being the parcel of land shown on plan entitled 'City of Boston -Centre St. - Walter St. - Joyce Kilmer Park (formerly) West Roxbury - October 29, 1956 - George G. Hyland, Commissioner of Public Works' to be recorded herewith.

"Reserving to the grantor, its successors and assigns, a right and easement to lay, maintain (by repair, by renewal or otherwise) and operate sewerage and drainage works (including open drains) in and through the following portions of the land hereby conveyed, to wit:-

"(a) The portion which is bounded southerly by a line parallel with and ten feet southerly of the center line of the sewer pipe now crossing the land hereby conveyed in an east-west direction, westerly by Centre Street, northerly by a line parallel with and forty feet northerly of said center line of said sewer pipe, and easterly by Walter Street, and

"(b) The portion bounded northerly by the above-described portion of the land hereby conveyed, easterly by a line parallel with and five feet easterly of the center line of the sewer pipe connecting the aforesaid sewer pipe with the sewer pipe constructed under the easement described in the

instrument recorded December 19, 1939 with Suffolk Deeds, Book 5830, Page 472, southerly by the aforesaid land now or formerly of The President and Fellows of Harvard College, and westerly by a line parallel with and five feet westerly of the center line of said connecting sewer pipe;

and the grantee, for itself, its successors and assigns, hereby covenants with the grantor, its successors and assigns, that except upon written authorization of the grantor's Mayor no part of the aforesaid portions of the land hereby conveyed shall be filled or any structure or structures maintained thereon.

"The grantee, for itself, its successors and assigns, hereby further covenants with the grantor, its successors and assigns, that for the benefit of that portion of the land taken by eminent domain by the grantor's Board of Park Commissioners on October 22, 1891, as evidenced by the instrument recorded with Suffolk Deeds, Book 2244, Page 545, which is still held by the grantor for public park purposes, no building shall be constructed by the grantee, its successors or assigns, upon the land hereby conveyed unless the building is set back at least fifty feet from the nearest sideline of every street, nor shall any building be constructed by the grantee, its successors or assigns, upon the land hereby conveyed if for the construction thereof action is required either under Section 19 or Section 20 of Chapter 488 of the Acts of 1924, as amended, or by the Zoning Commission or the Board of Appeal under Chapter 665 of the Acts of 1956 or a zoning regulation adopted under said Chapter 665.

"There has been full compliance with the provisions of Section 63A of Chapter 44 of the General Laws, as amended.

"IN WITNESS WHEREOF the City of Boston has this twenty-ninth day of October, 1956, caused its corporate seal to be hereto affixed and these presents to be signed in its name and behalf by Frank R. Kelley, Harry J. Blake, Thomas J. Carty, Daniel G. O'Connor and O. Phillip Snowden, as they constitute its Parks and Recreation Commission, and approved by John B. Hynes, its Mayor.

"CITY OF BOSTON

By	<u>Frank R. Kelley</u>	)	
	Chairman	)	
	<u>Harry J. Blake</u>	)	
	<u>Thomas J. Carty</u>	)	
	<u>Daniel G. O'Connor</u>	)	
	<u>O. Phillip Snowden</u>	)	
		)	Parks and Recreation Commission "

"Approved

John B. Hynes
Mayor "

"Approved as to Form:

William L. Baxter
Corporation Counsel"

"THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

"Suffolk, ss. Boston, October 29, 1956.

"Then personally appeared the above-named Frank R. Kelley, Harry J. Blake, Thomas J. Carty, Daniel G. O'Connor and O. Phillip Snowden and acknowledged the foregoing instrument to be the free act and deed of the City of Boston.

Before me,

Arthur J. O'Keefe
Notary Public

My commission expires 11/21/58 "

Voted, unanimously to accept the above form of deed.

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Land on Poplar Street, W. Roxbury

The Commission considered the matter of transferring to the Real Property Division a parcel of land located on the southwesterly side of Poplar Street between Hillside Avenue and Delano Park, West Roxbury, held by the Parks and Recreation Department for park or playground purposes, and containing approximately 18,954 square feet. It was a gift of the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Boston and was placed in custody of this department on January 8, 1951.

Voted, that the matter be laid on the table until a later meeting.

Building Permits

The following building permits were referred to the Parks and Recreation Department by the Building Department. Both were approved:

405 Longwood Avenue - Addition to schoolhouse of Temple Adath Israel.

61 Commonwealth Ave. - Change occupancy from one family to two families and doctors' offices. Request of John D'Alessandro.

Contracts

The following contracts were awarded:

Bituminous Concrete Pavement at Franklin Park Service Yard, W. Roxbury Mass. Awarded to low bidder, Baker & Co., Inc., 3475 Washington Street, Jamaica Plain, Mass. Amount...\$32,640.50

Extension of time to December 1, 1956, on contract for Construction of Laundry Addition and Alterations to Bath House, 241-245-249 Dover Street. Contractor, Keystone Construction Co.

Cemetery Lot-Refund

The sum of \$80.00 was refunded to Josephine Bellomo, 8 Beckler Avenue, South Boston, from the Perpetual Care Fund, for return of Lot 8R 29 Spruce Grove, Mount Hope Cemetery.

Memorial

The matter of the proposed memorial in honor of former Commissioner Theodore C. Haffenreffer was called to the attention of the Commissioners. Voted, that the matter be laid on the table until a future meeting.

For Information of Commission

(a) The Commission was informed that on October 16 the City Council Committee on Lands held a meeting to discuss the proposed sale at public auction of the park land at Chestnut Hill and Commonwealth Avenue and the transfer to the Real Property Division of the land at Dewey Beach. Another meeting on these matters is to be held by the Land Committee on November 13, at 10:30 a. m.

(b) The Commission was informed that Mr. John L. Batchelder called at this office to discuss a bequest which his mother, Mrs. Grace S. Batchelder, wishes to make to the city. Mrs. Batchelder was born in the first block of houses on Commonwealth Avenue and has lived in the vicinity of the Public Garden all her life. She wishes to bequeath to the city, to be expended by the Parks and Recreation Department, a sum of money, probably \$1500 or \$2000, for the purchase and planting of trees or shrubs in the Public Garden, the-

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choice of trees and/or shrubs to be left to the judgment of the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Mr. John Batcheldor thought that perhaps one small area of the Garden could be set aside for this planting and he thought it would please other members of the family, and show that he had carried out this provision in his mother's will, if a small commemorative plaque could be erected in the planted area.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p. m.


Secretary

December 18, 1956

A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at this office, 33 Beacon Street, today, at 11.15 o'clock a. m.

Present: Commissioner Frank R. Kelley and Associate Commissioners Daniel G. O'Connor, Thomas J. Carty, O. Phillip Snowden, and Harry J. Blake.

Voted to accept minutes of previous meeting without reading.

Baker, Gardner and Spring Streets, West Roxbury: The Commission voted unanimously to approve the proposed sale of park land in the West Roxbury district to the Christian Brothers Institute of Massachusetts (Christian Brothers of Ireland) for the sum of \$30,000.

Authority to sell this land is authorized under the provisions of Chapter 264 of the Acts of 1956 of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

The land was acquired by the city in 1954 and was approved by the City Council on January 25 and by the Mayor on January 26, 1954. Under the provisions of Section 63 of Chapter 33 of the General Laws, the sum of \$25,000 was appropriated for the acquisition of this land. The Law Department made a taking of six parcels, and the owners were paid a total sum of \$29,033.28. The taking is recorded in Suffolk Deeds, Book 6942, Ch. 546, March 15, 1956. The land area is shown on a plan entitled, "City of Boston, Baker Street, Gardner Street and Spring Street, West Roxbury, November 27, 1953, James W. Haley, Chief Engineer, Street Laying-Out Department".

The land will be used as the site of a central high school for boys.

School Department - Play Area in Fens: The Commission again considered the development as playgrounds and play areas, particularly for use by Boston Latin School, Boston English High School and Boston Technical High School, all the land in the Fens bordered by Park Drive, Boylston Street, The Fenway, and Agassiz Road.

Present at the meeting to discuss the matter with the Commission were Dr. Dennis J. Haley; Chairman of the School Committee Joseph Lee, Committeeman Timothy McInerney, and Director of Physical Education Joseph McKenney. These gentlemen explained in detail the problems they face in providing playground facilities for the intown high schools. They stated that their particular problem is not with the boy who is competing in varsity athletics but rather with those who are identified with the new and expanding program of intramural athletics among all boys in the schools. Present plans are to include in some form of athletics all boys who are physically able to participate. The school officials stated that there are 5500 boys in the three schools in the Fenway area and that at least 50% of them participate in the intramural program. Mr. McKenney stated that during the school season a minimum of 1000 boys would be using this area after school hours.

The Parks and Recreation Commissioners assured the school officials

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that they were very sympathetic with the problems facing the School Department. After the school officials had left the meeting, the Commissioners stated that they were of the opinion that some program should be worked out that would assist the School Department in the development of its athletic program. On motion of Commissioner Snowden, seconded by Commissioner Carty, it was voted that the matter be laid on the table for consideration at the next meeting.

Northeastern University - Request for Land Purchase: Commissioner Kelley reported on his talk with Dr. Carl S. Ell, President of Northeastern University, regarding the desire of University officials to acquire a section of park land located at Huntington Avenue, Hemenway Street and The Fenway, as a site for a home for the University president.

No action was taken on the matter.

Vote of Concurrence Rescinded: Voted, That the vote of the Board of Park Commissioners of March 14, 1950, concurring in the sale of 1786 square feet of land in the West Roxbury District to Robert L. Barrett, be rescinded for the reason that the Metropolitan District Commission has stated that the said Barrett failed to make payment of the prescribed sum for the land and to accept delivery of the deed.

On December 6, 1956 the Metropolitan District Commission rescinded its vote of January 12, 1950 wherein this land was conveyed to Robert L. Barrett, according to information to this department in letter of December 7, 1956.

Swan Boats - Increase in Fares: Voted to approve an increase in fare for rides on the Swan Boats on the Public Garden Pond for all those over 12 years of age, as requested by Mr. Paul G. Paget, from 15 cents to 20 cents. The price for passengers under 12 years of age will remain at 10 cents.

Memorial to Monsignor Dolan: The Commission discussed a memo from His Honor the Mayor relating to a request for re-naming of Dorchester Park, or some section of the park, in memory of the late Monsignor Dolan, former pastor of St. Gregory's Church. It was agreed that the Chief Engineer, Daniel J. Byrne, Jr., be delegated to select a walk or some other area within the park that might suitably be named in honor of Monsignor Dolan, and to report to the Commission at a future meeting.

Art Festival, Public Garden: The Commission discussed at length the use of the Public Garden as the location for the Boston Art Festival, each year, and it was voted that the officials of the Festival Committee be invited to the next meeting of the Commission for the purpose of discussing the possible selection of another area for the art display.

Castle Island - Request for Permit: The Commission considered the request of Morrison-Knudsen-Kiewit-Maney for permission to place a drop hole on Castle Island to an underground tunnel through which cars for the hauling of cement are driven. This firm is engaged as contractors of the Boston Main Drainage Tunnel for the Metropolitan District Commission. The desired location is the grass center of the traffic circle at the end of Castle Island Boulevard. The operation would be on a 24-hours per day, six days per week basis, and would start about March and continue through October 1957. Permission was also requested to use such portions of Castle Island Boulevard as are necessary for the purpose of delivering concrete to the drop hole.

Voted, that the matter be laid on the table until the next meeting and that officials of the contracting company and of Metropolitan Dist. Commission also a member of the staff of the Law Department, be requested to attend the meeting and discuss details of the operation, before any action is taken on the request for a permit.

Building Permits: Referred to Parks and Recreation Department for approval, by the Building Department:

- 294 Commonwealth Avenue - Change occupancy from Fraternity House to ten apartments. Request of Hyman Goodman.
- 656 Beacon Street - Change occupancy from office building to school and office building.

Boston Common - Request for Christmas Tree Permit: Voted, to disapprove request of Mr. Hodgkinson, made through Mr. McCusker of the Mayor's office, for permission to erect another Christmas tree on Boston Common, near the municipal Christmas tree, for the purpose of providing a location at which contributions could be solicited for Hungarian Relief.

Parkman Fund: Voted, to approve requests made on His Honor the Mayor for transfer of income from the George F. Parkman Fund in the sum of \$25,000 which was available on November 2, and \$16,139.20 available on November 14, 1956, to be expended under direction of the Parks and Recreation Commissioner for "Common and Parks in Existence on January 12, 1887, Maintenance and Improvement Of"

Haffenreffer Memorial: The Commission again considered the naming of a suitable area in the Park System in memory of the late Associate Commissioner Theodore C. Haffenreffer and it was

Voted, That the main walk of the Public Garden extending from Arlington Street to Charles Street including the bridge over the Public Garden Pond be named the "Theodore C. Haffenreffer Memorial Walk".

At a later date the Commission will select a suitable marker for this memorial area.

Contracts: It was called to the attention of the Commission that the following contracts were publicly advertised and awarded to the low bidder in each case:

Asphalt Surfacing of Roadways at Mt. Hope Cemetery, West Roxbury, Mass. Awarded to John McCourt Company, 28 Wolcott Street, Readville, Massachusetts, for the sum of \$5,431.50

Furnishing and Erecting Christmas Trees at Various Locations in the City of Boston, Mass. Awarded to Blueview Nurseries, 32 Gaston Street, Roxbury, for the sum of \$4,710.00.

Extensions of Time on Contracts: Approved by Commissioner:

Construction of Laundry Addition and Alterations to Bath House, 241-245-249 Dover Street, Boston, Mass. Contractor, Keystone Construction Co., 148 State Street, Boston, Mass. Time extended to December 31, 1956.

Rebuilding the Little League Field, William F. Smith Playground, Dorchester, Mass. Contractor, P. J. Joyce & Son, Inc., 33 Royal Avenue, Cambridge, Mass. Time extended to May 15, 1957.

Furnishing and Laying a Metal Overflow Pipe at Jamaica Pond, West Roxbury, Mass. Contractor, C. A. Foley, 88 Broad Street, Boston, Mass. Time extended to December 29, 1956.

Repairing and Painting the Aquatic Flying Cage, Franklin Park Zoo, West Roxbury, Mass. Contractor, Warner W. Walsh, 33 Weybosset Street, Mattapan, Mass. Time extended to May 31, 1957.

12/18/56

1. His Honor the Mayor supported the stand taken by the Parks & Recreation Commission in banning the parking of automobiles on Boston Common. Statement to this effect was issued to the press.

2. A bill has been filed with the incoming Legislature under the terms of which Boston Common Garage, Inc., will be given until July 1, 1957 to start operations on the garage or be forced to turn the project back to the city. The bill was filed by Representative James S. Condon of South Boston.

3. Since the last meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission, the City Council Committee on Lands has held three hearings on an Order before the Council regarding the proposed sale of land at Chestnut Hill Avenue and Commonwealth Avenue for an upset price of \$160,000. The Chairman, the Chief Engineer and the Secretary have appeared at different times at these hearings. Residents of the neighborhood appeared in opposition. No official action has been taken by the Council.

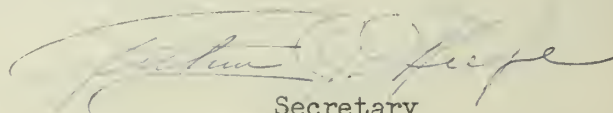
4. Hearings have also been held by the City Council regarding the proposed sale of land at Dewey Beach, Charlestown, and at Orleans and Sumner Streets, East Boston. No action has been taken.

5. On Thursday, November 29, a hearing was held in the Building Department regarding a change in zoning laws, in connection with the erection of a Home for Aged at Joyce Kilmer Park. The Secretary and Chief Engineer represented the Parks and Recreation Department. Approximately 100 residents of the neighborhood appeared in objection to any change in the present zoning laws. The matter is still under consideration by the Zoning Board of the Building Department.

Building Permit at 370 Commonwealth Avenue: Consideration was given to the request of the Hotel Eliot for erection of a marquee over entrance to the hotel. The marquee, if erected, will extend 8 feet out from the building and will have a frontage of 11 feet, and will extend over private property and not over the sidewalk.

Before taking action on this request, the Commission agreed to ascertain from the immediate abutter, the Harvard Club of 374 Commonwealth Avenue, whether the Harvard Club officials had any objection to the erection of the proposed marquee.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:10 o'clock p. m.


Secretary

January 3, 1957

A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at this office today, at 3 o'clock p. m., to consider the request of the State Department of Public Works for use of McConnell Park, Savin Hill section, Dorchester, for the purpose of maintaining a field office and storing equipment during the period of time required for the construction of the Southeast Expressway.

Voted, to grant the desired permission and to sign and send to the State Department of Public Works a letter to be dated June 25, 1956, reading as follows:

"June 25, 1956

"State Department of Public Works
100 Nashua Street
Boston 14, Massachusetts

Gentlemen:

Whereas the State Department of Public Works has need for an area which said Department and those acting on its behalf may occupy during the construction of the Southeast Expressway for the purpose of field offices, storage of equipment and materials, and other like purposes; and

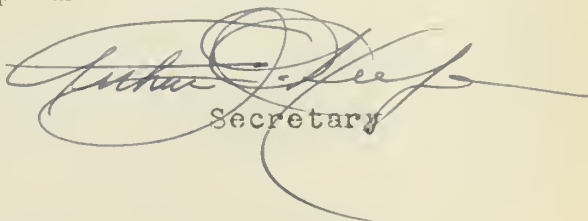
Whereas a substantial portion of the ballfield area of McConnell Park at Savin Hill in the Dorchester district of Boston has been taken by said Department for said Expressway; and

Whereas the construction of said Expressway has, as a practical matter, rendered said ball field area of little use as a ball field area because the close proximity of the heavy construction work results in continued imminent danger to persons using said ballfield area;

Now, therefore, to guard against any unfortunate accident at said ballfield as well as to facilitate the construction of said Expressway, the Parks and Recreation Commission for the City of Boston hereby grants to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, acting through its Department of Public Works, the right to use and occupy for the erection and maintenance of field offices and storage facilities as well as for the storage of material and equipment and other like purposes, until the construction of the Southeast Expressway has been completed, the land shown within the red lines on the plan annexed hereto, including the field house on said land.

<u>Frank R. Kelley</u>	)	
<u>Daniel G. O'Connor</u>	)	
<u>Thomas J. Carty</u>	)	
<u>O. Phillip Snowden</u>	)	
	)	Parks and Recreation Commission "

The meeting was adjourned at 4:05 p. m.


Secretary

January 17, 1957

A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at this office, 33 Beacon Street, today, at 10:45 a. m.

Present: Commissioner Frank R. Kelley and Associate Commissioners Daniel G. O'Connor, Thomas J. Carty, O. Phillip Snowden.

Voted, to accept the minutes of the previous meeting without reading.

Castle Island - Concrete Drop Hole

Present at this meeting to discuss with the Commission the matter of a concrete drop hole on Castle Island were: Mr. Thomas C. J. Maney, Mr. Alfred Petrofsky and Mr. David Helstrom of Morrison-Knudsen-Kiewit-Maney, and Mr. Andrew Griffin of the Metropolitan District Commission.

Mr. Petrofsky explained the details of the operation which his company plans at this location. He stated that if a permit is granted for the concrete drop hole, his company will operate six large concrete mixing trucks per hour, 24 hours per day, from early in May until late in September. Their present plans are to operate the trucks from the concrete plant in the Andrews Square section of South Boston, traveling by Dorchester Avenue, First Street, then through property of the Wiggin Terminal, and then to the traffic circle at Castle Island.

If this is done, then the problem as it pertains to the Parks and Recreation Department is the amount of area to be used at the traffic circle on Castle Island and whether it would interfere with our summer recreation program on Castle Island as well as with other forms of recreation such as fishing, picnicking, walking, etc., on the Island.

The Commission have under consideration the holding of a hearing within two weeks, to which would be invited representatives of citizens' groups, the clergy, and public office holders, all of South Boston. In the meantime Mr. Kerr of the Law Department, Mr. Byrne, Chief Engineer of this department, and representatives of the contracting company will view the site to ascertain if something can be worked out to the satisfaction of all.

It is agreed by all that some plan must be worked out, because the construction work is part of a contract for a sewerage system being constructed by the Metropolitan District Commission, the work under the contract having been in operation two years. The tunnel being constructed will eventually reach to the vicinity of Castle Island.

Art Festival

Members of the Art Festival Committee were present at this meeting, at 11:30 o'clock, for the purpose of discussing the use of the Public Garden as a location for the Art Festival held each year in June. The committee members present were: Mr. Nelson W. Aldrich, Mr. Peter Temple, and Mr. Jerome F. Rosenfeld.

Commissioner Kelley opened the hearing by informing the Art Festival Committee members that much opposition has been recorded during the past few years to the use of the Public Garden as a location for the Festival. The Secretary then read letters from civic groups and from our Superintendent of Horticulture, relating to the amount of damage done to the Garden as a result of the use of it for Festival purposes, and also a letter from Associate Commissioner Blake in which he suggested other desirable sites for the Festival.

Mr. Aldrich then presented each commissioner with a six-page

report covering the history of the Art Festival and setting forth the desirability of holding the Festival on the Public Garden and the reasons why neither the Common nor the Esplanade would be a suitable location. Attached to the report given to Commissioner Kelley was a letter from Olsted Bros., addressed to the Art Festival Committee, stating that seeding the area at the conclusion of the Festival would cost about \$5,000 and that grass could be restored to a reasonably good condition in three weeks' time.

Mr. Kerr offered the suggestion that the Festival might be held on the same location on the Common that is used for the Christmas Festival. The members of the Art Festival Committee agreed that the slope at this location would be practicable for their stage presentations, and that the hill sloping down from the Soldiers and Sailors Monument could also be used for this purpose, but that neither of these locations would be satisfactory because the Festival exhibits could not be placed in close proximity to the theatrical stage, and the committee feel that these stage presentations are necessary to the success of the Festival.

After thorough discussion of the matter, it seemed to be the opinion of all that the major point raised by the Committee is that they are not interested in accepting an alternative location, that no other place will do but the Public Garden.

Just prior to the conclusion of the hearing, Mr. Aldrich asked on behalf of the committee, that they be allowed to hold the Festival for one more year on the Public Garden because of certain commitments that had been made which would be very embarrassing to the committee if they were to be canceled. It might mean that the contracting parties would cancel their contracts if the Festival is not held on the Public Garden.

The Commissioners assured the Festival Committee that their request would receive every consideration. The matter was then laid on the table until another meeting, and the hearing was concluded.

Memorial to Monsignor Dolan

Voted, to name the main walk in Dorchester Park, which begins just across the street from St. Gregory's Church, in memory of Monsignor Francis X. Dolan, former pastor of the church, and that suitable signs be placed indicating that the walk is so named.

Memorial to Theodore C. Haffenreffer

Voted, to approve a sketch of proposed memorial plaques to be placed at the Charles Street and Arlington Street entrances to the main walk in the Public Garden in honor of former Commissioner Theodore C. Haffenreffer, and that Mr. Theodore C. Haffenreffer, Jr., be invited to a future meeting of the Commission for the purpose of viewing the sketch and approving it and to approve the type of dedication program to be held

Alsen Playground, Victory Road, Dorchester

It was agreed that the Secretary is to inform Mr. Nolen, clerk of the Boston Edison Company, that special legislation is required before the Alsen Playground property can be sold and, also, that the Commission is inclined to have the Edison Company take title to the entire parcel of land now remaining in custody of this department as it is not needed for playground purposes. The Commonwealth, through its adjutant general, has already acquired two-thirds of the original parcel, upon which is being erected an armory.

1/17/57

School Department - Proposed Fens Play Area

The Chief Engineer submitted to the Commission a preliminary sketch of the proposed play areas to be constructed in the Fens area, which met with the approval of the commissioners. It is estimated that the cost of doing the work will be \$85,000 to \$90,000

Dewey Beach Land, Charlestown

A communication from the Mayor was read to the Commission, which stated that the American Sugar Refining Company offered \$10,000 for land at Dewey Beach, Charlestown, on which they propose to erect a ten million dollar plant.

It was called to the attention of the Commission that the Revere Sugar Refinery, who are abutters to this property, are also interested in it and had expressed their interest in the land sometime prior to the offer received by the Mayor.

Before taking any action on these offers, the Commissioners agreed that Commissioner Kelley and Mr. Kerr should discuss the matter with the Mayor's office staff.

Almont Street Playground, Mattapan

The Commission considered the request of Mr. Theodore W. Berenson for the acquisition of part of Almont Street Playground for the site of a new Hecht House building, the playground land to be taken in trade for land on American Legion Highway, in the Franklin Park area, owned by Hecht House.

The Secretary read a report submitted by Daniel J. Byrne, Jr., Chief Engineer of the Parks and Recreation Department, stating reasons why the playground land is necessary in its entirety in the playground system.

The Commission then voted unanimously to refuse the request of Mr. Berenson for acquisition of any part of Almont Street Playground for the reason that this play area is a well developed and vital part of the playground system and is required for recreation purposes in the Almont Street neighborhood.

Northeastern University - Request for Land Purchase

The Commissioners studied a report showing appraisal of real estate in the vicinity of land on Forsyth Street which Northeastern University desires to purchase as the site of a home for the University president. The report indicates that all land in this vicinity is assessed at approximately the same value.

Voted, that the matter be laid on the table for future consideration.

Orleans Street, E. Boston

The Commissioners were informed that a notice had been received from the City Council and the Mayor stating that approval has been given to the transfer of 1068 square feet of park land on Orleans Street, East Boston, from the Parks and Recreation Department to the Real Property Division. The transfer was made in accordance with a vote of the Commission on October 9, 1956 requesting said transfer.

Hanson Street, South End

A notice from the Public Improvement Commission was called to the attention of the Commission, stating that the Hanson Street land was abandoned as the site of a play area.

McConnell Park, Dorchester

Mr. Kerr, the City's chief legal assistant, stated that he has an agreement with the Wes-Julian Construction Company in which the Company agrees to submit to the Parks and Recreation Department a development plan showing the work they will do on McConnell Park to recondition it as a park area, after completion of the Southeast Expressway. This agreement is in addition to the filing of a \$35,000 bond.

Permit for Marquee - Hotel Eliot

The Secretary read a letter from the manager of the Harvard Club, stating that the Club had no objection to the erection of a marquee on the abutting building, the Hotel Eliot. The request of the Hotel Eliot for permission to erect a marquee on its hotel property at 370 Commonwealth Avenue was before the Commission at the meeting of December 18, 1956. As there were no objections, the Commissioner approved the request on December 28, 1956.

Boston Common - Marker

The Commissioners were informed that permission has been granted to the Methodist Historical Society, Inc., of 745 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, to provide and place a suitable marker at the site of the former "Great Elm" on Boston Common after approval of the design has been obtained from the Parks and Recreation Commission and the Boston Art Commission. The department has also agreed to provide and plant an elm tree on the same site as the "Great Elm".

Extension to Contract

An extension of time for completion of the following contract was granted: "Removal of Dead or Diseased Trees in the City of Boston, Mass.". Contractor: Fred Ralston & Co., Inc., 47 Braintree Street, Allston, Massachusetts. Time extended to February 15, 1957.

Change in Park Rules

Voted, to amend Section 6 of Park Rules by changing the present designation of "8 passengers" to "9", so that park rules establishing the seating capacity of vehicles using park roadways may be identical with Traffic Commission rules.

Miscellaneous Matters

After conclusion of business listed on the agenda, two other matters were discussed:

(1) Mr. Kerr reported briefly to the Commissioners on the terms of a bill filed in the Legislature proposing to restore the Shirley-Eustis mansion, on Eustis Street, Roxbury, which was originally constructed in 1750. The bill is of interest to the Parks and Recreation Department in that it proposes to reconstruct the building on the Pinebank property, off Jamaica Way, which is park property.

Mr. Kerr feels that under the present bill the State may decide to acquire our recreation building at Pinebank for its

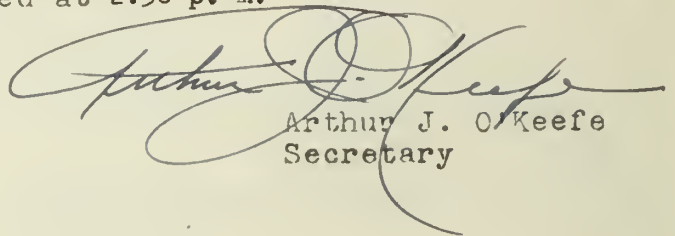
own purposes and he has, therefore, filed another bill which he believes will protect the interests of the Parks and Recreation Department.

(2) Commissioner Kelley brought before the Commission for consideration, the possibility of selling property now under contr of this department known as the Ross Estate, located on Forest Hill Street, Jamaica Plain, in the rear of Franklin Park.

This property, containing two old dwelling houses, was bequeathed to the city in 1943 and was accepted by the then mayor. The department was not interested in acquiring the property at that time and has never had use for it, as it has no value for park or playground purposes and the expense of maintaining it has been considerable.

It was voted to turn the matter over to the Law Department for transfer or sale, if it is possible under the terms of the bequest to dispose of the property.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:50 p. m.


Arthur J. O'Keefe
Secretary

February 6, 1957

A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at this office, 33 Beacon Street, today, at 11 o'clock a. m.

Present: Commissioner Frank R. Kelley and Associate Commissioners Daniel G. O'Connor, Thomas J. Carty, O. Phillip Snowden.

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted without reading.

Castle Island - Concrete Drop Hole

The Commission was informed that the Chief of the Real Estate Division of the U. S. Corps of Engineers had notified this department in writing that his office is satisfied that the right to construct a drop hole on Castle Island, to facilitate the pouring of concrete during construction of an underground sewer line for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, is included in the easement granted to the Commonwealth by the Secretary of the Army on November 10, 1955 and that no additional instrument is required.

The Commission therefore voted that the Parks and Recreation Department has no objection to the construction of a concrete drop hole in the traffic circle at Castle Island, provided that the construction company, - Morrison-Knudsen-Kiewit-Maney-will provide a police officer to direct traffic during all hours of the day and to direct the movement of trucks hauling concrete, and also that the construction company will furnish a copy of its liability and workmen's compensation bond to the Parks and Recreation Department, and that the City of Boston will not be held liable for any accident or damage that may be caused by the contractor's operations at this location.

Art Festival on Public Garden

It was unanimously voted, on motion of Commissioner Carty and seconded by Commissioner Snowden, that a letter be addressed to the officials of the Art Festival granting them permission to hold the Festival on the Public Garden in 1957 and that the permit is granted with the understanding that it will not be renewed in any subsequent year for the Public Garden location.

2/6/57

Dewey Beach, Charlestown

The attention of the Commission was called to the final order transferring the Dewey Beach park land to the Real Property Department, approved by the Council on January 28 and by the Mayor on January 29.

Baker, Gardner and Spring Streets, W.R.

The Commission was informed that Commissioner Kelley, Chief Engineer Byrne and Secretary O'Keefe appeared before the Land Committee of the City Council on January 31 in regard to the sale of park property at Baker, Gardner and Spring Streets, West Roxbury, to the Christian Brothers Institute of Massachusetts for a sum of \$30,000, and that the Committee was given a complete history of the land takings leading up to the filing of an order for the proposed sale of the land.

Also present at this meeting before the Council Committee were Monsignor Charles Donahue, Pastor of St. Theresa's Church in West Roxbury, and Mr. Walsh and Mr. Crosby, attorneys for the Christian Brothers.

The matter is now under advisement and the decision of the Land Committee will be reported to the full body of the Council.

Land at Chestnut Hill & Commonwealth Avenue

Commissioner Kelley gave a report of a meeting which was held by the Executive Committee of the City Council on Monday, February 4, 1957, which he attended for the purpose of furnishing details regarding the city-owned land at Commonwealth and Chestnut Hill Avenues, Brighton - as to who the interested purchasers are, and also concerning certain proposed zoning changes at this location.

He stated that he informed the Committee that upon advice of the Corporation Counsel no action can be taken in the matter of selling this property until such time as the Council accepts a request of the Mayor for the withdrawal of his order for the sale of this land in its present form and the acceptance of a new order when certain zoning changes have been made.

The Commissioner informed the Parks and Recreation Commission members that his Honor the Mayor has suggested that the Commission petition for a change in zoning ordinances at this location in order that the property may be sold at the value put upon it by the appraiser, namely, \$160,000.

Boston Common Garage

Since the last meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission, Councillor Piemonte has filed a resolution asking the City Council to support a bill to allow the city to borrow \$10 million above the debt limit to build the garage under Boston Common.

On Tuesday, February 5, the Legislature held a hearing on a bill proposing that the Boston Common underground garage be set up under an Authority. This plan is favored by various trade groups and the Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce. There were several groups in opposition.

House Bill No. 1117

This legislative bill would require the City of Boston to construct a tot playground on the site of the former Barry School in East Boston. The bill was filed by Representative Enrico Matera.

The land is one of three parcels transferred within the last few years from the School Department to the Parks and Recreation Department. At present no funds are available for construction of a playground.

Murphy Playground, Jamaica Plain

The City Council has held up a school loan of \$5 million for construction

2/6/57

of a new school in Jamaica Plain because they would not approve the taking of part of Murphy Playground for the site of the school.

Refreshment Concession - George Wright Playground

The Commission voted to grant the request of T. J. McKeon, Jr., for cancellation of his agreement for operation of the refreshment concession in the George Wright Golf Clubhouse as of March 1, 1957. The agreement has until December 31, 1957 to run.

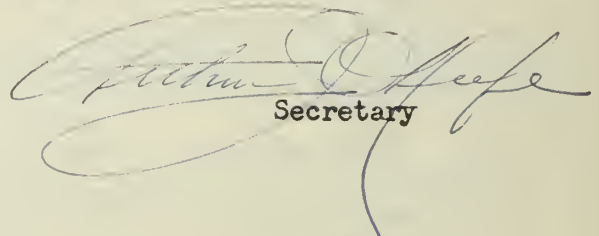
The Commission also voted to grant authority to Commissioner Kelley to ask for new bids for this concession or to negotiate an agreement with a new concessionaire, whichever in his judgment is more practical.

Building Permits

The following building permits were referred to the Parks and Recreation Department by the Building Department for approval. All were approved:

- | | | |
|------------------------|---|---|
| 41 Commonwealth Avenue | - | Change occupancy from one to seven apartments. Request of Thomas J. Diab. |
| 293 | " | " - Change occupancy from twelve to eighteen apartments, erect connecting balconies on front. Request of Slater Realty Trust. |
| 295 | " | " - Change occupancy from twelve to eighteen apartments, erect connecting balconies on front. Request of Slater Realty Trust. |

The meeting was adjourned at 1:15 p. m.


Secretary

April 10, 1957

A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at this office, 33 Beacon Street, Boston, today, at 10:40 a. m.

Present: Commissioner Frank R. Kelley and Associate Commissioners Daniel G. O'Connor, Thomas J. Carty, O. Phillip Snowden and Harry J. Blake.

Voted, to dispense with reading of the minutes of the previous meeting.

Baker, Gardner, Spring Streets, W. Roxbury

The Commissioners were informed that the sum of \$30,000 has been received from the sale of park land at Baker, Gardner, Spring Streets, West Roxbury, the sale of the land having been approved by the City Council and the Mayor. With this \$30,000 added to the special appropriation "Sales of City Property", the total sum realized from recent sales of park lands amounts to \$102,000.

His Honor the Mayor submitted an order to the City Council requesting transfer of this sum for parks and recreation purposes. The order was approved by the City Council on March 25 and signed by the Mayor on March 27. The money has been set up in an account known as "Playground, Veterans of Foreign Wars Parkway, West Roxbury".

Chestnut Hill Avenue & Commonwealth Avenue

The Commission was informed that there will be a hearing before the Board of Zoning Adjustment on the proposed change in height of buildings in the Chestnut Hill-Commonwealth Avenues area from Residential R-65 to Residential R-155, on April 10, 1957.

The Commission went on record, on motion of Commissioner O'Connor, seconded by Commissioner Snowden, as favoring the change in zoning at this location from R-65 to R-155.

Dewey Beach Land, Charlestown

The Commission was informed that the sale of the Dewey Beach land was completed by the Real Property Division and the sum of \$60,000 was received from the purchaser, the American Sugar Refining Company.

A request was then made upon the City Auditor, by Commissioner Kelley, for the transfer of the sum of \$60,000 from the account "Sales of City Property" to the account "Playground, Veterans of Foreign Wars Parkway, West Roxbury.

Art Festival

The Secretary reported to the Commission that since the last meeting, seven letters have appeared in the newspapers in favor of the Commission's decision to prohibit the holding of the Art Festival in the Public Garden after the present year, and two letters against; also that six letters were received at this office in favor, and one against. An editorial on the same subject, which appeared in the Boston American of February 19 and which was submitted to this office by Commissioner Blake, was read to the Board.

The Board voted unanimously to forward to His Honor the Mayor a copy of a letter sent to Nelson W. Aldrich by Commissioner Kelley, under date of February 7, 1957, stating the Board's decision on the use of the Public Garden for the Art Festival exhibit. The Board thought it advisable for the Mayor's office to have this letter on file in case the subject is re-opened at any time.

Lafayette Mall

The Commission was informed that the City Council under date of April 1, and the Mayor on April 2, approved the transfer of the sum of \$175,000 from the income of the George F. Parkman Fund as it accrues, to be expended for the improvement of Boston Common.

Commissioner Kelley and Engineer Byrne discussed with the Commissioners the proposed improvements on the Lafayette Mall, under the above program. They stated that it is desirable that all structures now in this area be removed except the Buddies Club, whose sponsors have requested that this building be allowed to remain.

On motion of Commissioner Snowden, seconded by Commissioner Carty, it was voted that the Buddies Club building be allowed to remain on the Common with the understanding that the Club officials will cooperate as far as possible with city officials in the planned improvements in the area by having the land around the clubhouse thoroughly cleaned and landscaped and by having the building renovated so as to present an attractive appearance, and by removing and signs that might detract from its appearance.

Suggested Parker Hill Development (McLaughlin Plgrd.

Chief Engineer Byrne reported to the Commissioners on the details of his meeting and a trip to the McLaughlin Playground area with His Honor the Mayor and other interested persons, in relation to the proposed erection of a hotel on part of the McLaughlin Playground land and adjacent to the Robert Brigham Hospital.

The Board stated that they are very much interested in the proposed developments in the area but that they can take no action until formal request is made to them for purchase of some part of the playground land.

4/10/57

Longwood Park (Joslin Park)

The Commission discussed a memo from His Honor the Mayor relating to the proposed re-naming of Longwood Park in honor of Dr. Elliott P. Joslin of the Deaconess Hospital.

The Commissioners are in accord with the desire of the Mayor that this small park be named in honor of Dr. Joslin.

They then discussed the necessary reconditioning of the area and it was agreed that Chief Engineer Daniel J. Byrne should meet within a few days with Mr. Carter, of the John Volpe Company, in an effort to work out a plan whereby the Volpe Company will pay one-half of the expense of redeveloping this park, the City to pay the other half. It was also agreed that Mr. Byrne will meet with Mr. Paul Hines of the Mayor's office, who is the Mayor's representative in the matter of re-naming this area and arranging a dedication program to be held on June 6.

Use of Billings Field

The Commission gave consideration to the request of Lawrence Rosen, President of the West Roxbury Board of Trade, for use by the Board of Trade of Billings Field on May 2, for an exhibit of wares and services of local merchants.

The Commissioners were informed that we have several opinions from the Corporation Counsel stating that under the law parks and playgrounds may be used for park and playground purposes only, and for no other purpose.

It was therefore unanimously voted, on motion of Commissioner Blake and seconded by Commissioner O'Connor, that the request for use of Billings Field by the West Roxbury Board of Trade be denied.

Budget Information

The Secretary informed the Commission that the following are the 1957 budget allowances for the Parks and Recreation Department:

Park Division: Original request, \$4,291,056.70; Mayor's allowance, \$3,774,894.00; Council allowance, \$3,669,894.00.

Cemetery Division: Original request, \$387,959.00; Mayor's allowance, \$363,160.00; Council allowance, \$358,160.00.

Matters of Information

Boston Common Garage: According to press notices of February 25, the creation of a Boston Common Garage Authority, to build the underground parking facility if it is not constructed by private finances, was favored by the Legislative Committee on Cities.

Under date of March 6, a proposal to allow the City of Boston to assess taxes on property leased to a private corporation for a garage was reported adversely by the Committee on Taxation.

Schoolboy Parade: The Secretary reported that he had attended a meeting with the School Committee on the evening of February 25, to discuss the proposed discontinuance of the annual Schoolboy parade. The Secretary represented this department's interests in the parade in so far as they are concerned with the use of park property by spectators at the parade. The department offered no complaint on the use of its property.

Transfer of Alcoholic Beverage License: The Commissioner reported that since the last meeting he has once again gone on record as opposed to the transfer of an alcoholic beverage license from 560 Washington Street to 1120 Soldiers Field Road, in the vicinity of a city playground. The transfer of this license was previously requested in November of 1956, from 16 Hayward Place.

Concessions Awarded: The following two concessions have been awarded:

George Wright Golf Clubhouse Refreshment Privilege. Invitation bids were received in amounts of \$375.00, \$403.00, \$462.00, \$476.00, and \$601.00 for a one year term.

The concession was awarded to the highest bidder, John E. Crowley of 149 Beaver Street, Hyde Park, for the sum of \$601.00 for a one-year term beginning April 1, 1957.

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Jamaica Pond Rest Rooms: Concession awarded to Nik-O-Lok Company to install Nik-O-Loks in the rest rooms of the Jamaica Pond boat house and refreshment building for a trial period of one year from May 1, 1957, the City to receive 50% of the revenue of these locks.

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Contracts Awarded:

1. Cleaning of Catchbasins in any Park Roadway or Facility in the City of Boston. Contract awarded to William J. Banfield, 50 Terminal Street, Charlestown, for the sum of \$4,000.00.

2. Spraying of Trees Throughout the Park System. Contract divided between the two lowest bidders, at the same unit price, as follows: Fred Ralston & Co., Inc., 47 Braintree Street, Allston.....\$5,500.00; and Superior Tree Service, Inc., 15 Littlejohn St., Arlington, Mass.....\$5,500.00.

3. Reconstruction & Resurfacing of Roadways at Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, Mass. Contract awarded to lowest bidder, John McCourt Co., 28 Wolcott Street, Readville, Massachusetts, for the sum of...\$23,173.00.

Two other contracts were publicly advertised and bids were opened on April 2, one for "Repairs to Bituminous Pavement at Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, Massachusetts", with a low bid of \$5105.00, and the other for "Resurfacing and Widening St. Thomas More Road, Brighton, Mass.", with a low bid of \$20,502.50. Requests for funds for both jobs had been placed in the budget but were removed by the City Council; therefore no award of these contracts can be made.

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Building Permits referred to this department by the Building Department.

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|---|--|
| 192 Commonwealth Avenue | - | Change occupancy from 8 apartments to 9 apartments. Request of W. John Bradin, Inc. Approved. |
| 366 " " | - | Change occupancy from store and 12 apartments to store and 14 apartments. Request of A. Yorks. Approved. |
| 381 " " | - | New connecting balcony 4th floor to connect with No. 383. Change occupancy from 5 to 6 apartments. Request of First Church of Christ Scientist. Approved. |
| 383 " " | - | New connecting balcony on 4th floor front to connect with No. 381. Request of First Church of Christ Scientist. Approved. |
| 80 Boylston Street | - | Erect signal tower on roof. Request of Karl Bloomberg. Approved. |
| 30 Fairfield Street | - | Change occupancy from one family dwelling to ten apartments. Request of Louis Macey. Approved. |
| 375 Commonwealth Avenue | - | Alterations to building so as to convert for use as a dispensing optical establishment. (Change not in keeping with character of Commonwealth Avenue). Request disallowed. |

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4/10/57

Boston Common Permits:

April 6--April 14. Permit to Dewey & Almy Chemical Company to fly a Kytoon (a miniature blimp 15 feet long) in connection with "Chemical Progress Week".

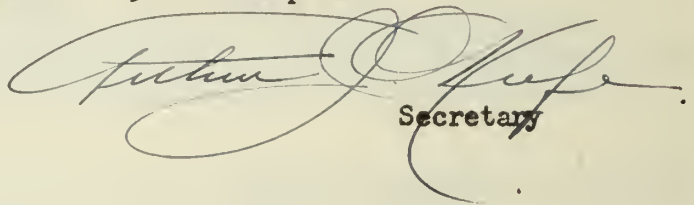
May 4. Permit to Greater Boston Junior Chamber of Commerce to use the ball fie for a Teenage Road-e-o Driving Contest, and to serve refreshments to contestant

June 3. Permit to Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company to hold the 319th Anniversary Observance on the Parade Ground.

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Opening of Municipal Golf Courses. Franklin Park and George Wright golf courses were opened for the 1957 season on April 6.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:15 o'clock p. m.


Secretary

June 13, 1957

A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held in this office, 33 Beacon Street, today, at 10:30 a. m.

Present: Commissioner Frank R. Kelley and Associate Commissioners Daniel G. O'Connor, Thomas J. Carty, O. Phillip Snowden and Harry J. Blake.

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted without reading.

The attention of the Commissioners was called to a certification, from the office of the City Clerk, of the appointment of Mr. Thomas J. Carty as Associate Commissioner of Parks and Recreation for the term ending May 1, 1961.

Lafayette Mall

The Commission was informed that under date of May 31, His Honor the Mayor approved the award of an architect's contract to Shurcliff, Shurcliff & Merrill for architects' services in preparation for construction work on Lafayette Mall, Boston Common, the amount of the contract not to exceed the sum of \$14,000. This contract is for Phase #1 of the work to be done.

In connection with improvements to be made on Lafayette Mall, a letter was read from Judge Haven Parker outlining a program of improvements to be made to the Armed Forces Club on the Common.

Request of School Committee for
Transfer of Franklin Park Land

A letter was read from Miss Agnes E. Reynolds, Secretary of the Boston School Committee, containing a request of the School Committee for the transfer of a sufficient number of acres of land in Franklin Park to provide for a site for a new Boston Technical High School.

After carefully considering the request of the Boston School Committee, the members of the Parks & Recreation Commission voted unanimously against the transfer of any land in Franklin Park for the purpose of providing a site for a new Boston Technical High School

Hanson Street, South End

Consideration was given to an appraisal, made by Earle R. Barnard, of

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land on Hanson Street, South End, known as Parcels 5911 and 5912 on plan and numbered 14 and 16 Hanson Street, the appraised value of the land being given as \$2200.00.

On motion of Commissioner Snowden, seconded by Commissioner Carty, the Commission voted unanimously to recommend purchase of the land for the price of \$2200.00, the money to be obtained from the account, "Sales of City Property", and the land, when purchased, to be placed under care and custody of the Parks and Recreation Department for development as a recreation area.

Boston Arts Festival

The Commission discussed at length the use of the Boston Public Garden for future Boston Arts Festivals. It was agreed that the Commission would take no further action at this time other than to state that the Commission's views have not changed since it voted in meeting held on February 6, 1957 to refuse the use of the Public Garden as a location for the Arts Festival after the summer of 1957.

Longwood Park (Joslin Park)

The Commission was informed that since the last meeting of the members of the Commission, considerable work has been done on Longwood Park to recondition it, such as seeding, loaming, planting of trees, erection of benches, etc., in cooperation with the Volpe Company who had used it until recently as the site of a field office during construction of a hospital building.

Malloch's Wharf

The Commission discussed the disposition of park property known as Malloch's Wharf, on Freeport Street, Dorchester, which has no value to this department for park or playground purposes.

The land is located in a boat yard area and has been rented for boat yard purposes. It was never developed as a recreation area. The area originally contained approximately 160,000 square feet of land, which included marsh land and flats. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts took 60,000 square feet for construction of the Southeast Expressway, leaving approximately 100,000 square feet, of which 60,000 square feet is marsh land and flats.

On motion of Commissioner Snowden, seconded by Commissioner Blake, it was unanimously voted to recommend the transfer of the Malloch's Wharf property to the Real Property Division of the City of Boston.

Post Office Square

The Secretary read correspondence relating to the joint development of the small park, known as Post Office Square, by the City of Boston Parks and Recreation Department and the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. The Commissioner informed other members of the Commission of the details of recent meetings on this matter.

Chestnut Hill & Commonwealth Avenues

The Commission was informed that hearings have been held by the Board of Zoning Adjustment, on April 10 and May 29, regarding a proposed change in height of buildings in the area of park land at Chestnut Hill Avenue and Commonwealth Avenue from R-65 to R-155. At the most recent meeting of the Zoning Board ten of the twelve Board members were present and voted for the change, which allows the construction of a 12 to 15-story office and apartment building.

6/13/57

Boston College Stadium

The Commission was informed that a notice was received from the Board of Appeal under date of May 17, 1957, granting Boston College an approval to erect a stadium at 2601 Beacon Street, Ward 21. This department was notified because we are abutters.

Troy & Rochester Streets, South End

The City Council, under an order dated June 3 and approved by the Mayor on June 4, transferred the care, custody and control of land on Troy and Rochester Streets, South End, from the Parks and Recreation Commission to the Commissioner of Real Property. The land is located in the so-called New York Streets Area and was formerly used as a playground.

Councillor Piemonte has placed an order in the City Council proposing that the money received from the sale of this property, which should be approximately \$19,000, be used to develop other recreational areas in the South End.

This land, although maintained by this department for years, was acquired by the Trustees of the White Fund and developed by the Trustees, and therefore money derived from the sale of the land to the Boston Housing Authority may properly belong to the White Fund. However, if the proceeds are placed in the account, "Sales of City Property", it may be possible to obtain a transfer of funds to the appropriations of this department for use in the development of a new recreation area.

Maintenance of Arborway

There had been some difference of opinion between the Metropolitan District Commission and the Parks and Recreation Department as to which agency was responsible for the care of the Arborway. It has now been established that the Metropolitan District Commission will be responsible for the care and cleaning of the Arborway, as this area was recently transferred with other Boston parkways to the care and custody of that Commission.

Joyce Kilmer Park

The Commission was informed that the City of Boston Board of Appeal had reversed the decision of the Health and Building Commission and disapproved construction of a Hebrew Home for Aged on land recently purchased from the Parks and Recreation Department, known as Joyce Kilmer Park.

Hemenway Street & Forsyth Way

The Board again considered the appraisal, made by Earle R. Barnard, of park land located at Hemenway Street and Forsyth Way which Northeastern University is desirous of purchasing. The appraisal sets a value of \$126,000 on the land. No action was taken by the Commission.

Central Artery--Inner Belt

The Chairman and Chief Engineer discussed with the Commission the proposed extension of the Central Artery-Inner Belt from Paul's Bridge near the Boston-Milton line to the intersection of American Legion Highway and Seaver Street. The extension will necessitate the taking, by the Commonwealth, of a portion of Franklin Park, which will mean the removal of all or part of the following Park buildings and recreation areas: one greenhouse, refectory building, golf building, one or two zoo buildings, a portion of the golf course, the rose gardens and herbaceous gardens.

Supplementary Budget

The Board was informed that the following supplementary budet had been submitted to the City Council and that hearings on the budget had been held by the City Council, but final decision had not been reached:

Temporary Employees - Play leaders,	\$ 14,000
Program, physically and mentally handicapped,	8,000
Transportation,	1,500
Automotive Supplies,	5,000
Food Supplies,	5,000
Office Supplies - recreation program,	400
St. Thomas More Drive - resurfacing ,	23,000
Pinebank Building - electrical repairs,	8,000
Total	<u>\$64,900</u>

Haffenreffer Memorial

For the official records of the department: The main walk of the Public Garden, running from the center entrance on Charles Street to the center entrance on Arlington Street, was dedicated on June 4 at 12 o'clock noon, by His Honor the Mayor John B. Hynes, in memory of Associate Commissioner Theodore C. Haffenreffer who served on the Parks and Recreation Commission for a period of 26 years. Members of the present Commission and the Haffenreffer family and friends were present at the dedication.

Contracts

The following contracts were publicly advertised and all were awarded to the lowest bidders, except one as indicated:

Grading, Surfacing and Improvements at John J. Connolly Playground, Roxbury. Awarded to William P. Herlihy, 564 Huron Avenue, Cambridge, \$39,703.00

Furnishing and Erecting Canopy Type Baseball Backstops at Parks and Recreation Department Playgrounds, Boston, Mass. Awarded to Superior Fence Co., Inc., 556 Springfield Ave., Pawtucket, Rhode Island, 5,465.00

Asphalt Surfacing of Roadways at Parks and Recreation Department Cemeteries, Boston, Mass. Awarded to Old Colony Construction Co., Vernon Street, Quincy, Massachusetts, 25,263.75

Repairs to Wooden Handball Court at L Street Bath House, South Boston, Mass. Awarded to Martin F. Kelly, 75 Stedman Street, Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts, 7,345.00

Painting Iron Fences at Mt. Hope Cemetery, West Roxbury, Mass. Awarded to second lowest bidder, Warner W. Walsh, 30 Weybosset Street, Mattapan, Mass., for the reason that the lowest bidder failed to comply with specifications, 3,893.00

Furnishing and Planting Trees on Streets and Parkways in Boston, Mass. Awarded to Blueview Nurseries, 32 Gaston Street, Roxbury, Massachusetts, 28,500.00

Painting Concrete Pool at Frog Pond, Boston Common, Boston, Mass. Awarded to G. S. Maloney & Co., 23 St. Mary's Court, Brookline, Massachusetts, 1,884.00

Painting Bath House Buildings and Concrete Pools at Ensign John J. Doherty Jr. Playground, Charlestown, Massachusetts. Awarded to R. E. Chick Co., 155 Lowell Street, Peabody, Mass. 2,830.00

Painting Bath House and Concrete Pools at North End Park, Boston, Mass. Awarded to R. E. Chick Co., 155 Lowell St., Peabody, 5,200.00

Contracts (Cont.)

6/13/57

Removal of Dead or Diseased Trees in the City of Boston. Awarded to Fred Ralston & Co., Inc., 47 Braintree Street, Allston, Massachusetts,	\$24,150.00
Spraying of Trees throughout the Park System,	5,500.00
Trimming of Trees throughout the Park System,	11,000.00
Both awarded to Fred Ralston & Co., Inc., 47 Braintree Street, Allston, Massachusetts.	
Spraying of Trees throughout the Park System,	5,500.00
Trimming of Trees throughout the Park System,	11,000.00
Both awarded to Superior Tree Service, Inc., 15 Littlejohn Street, Arlington, Massachusetts.	

Refreshment Permit

A permit was granted to Carnig's Ice Cream Company, 877 Washington Street, Boston, for the sale of ice cream and similar refreshments on eight park locations including Boston Common (at Charles and Boylston Streets corner), for the year beginning May 1, 1957 and ending April 30, 1958, for the sum of \$225.00.

Planting of Trees

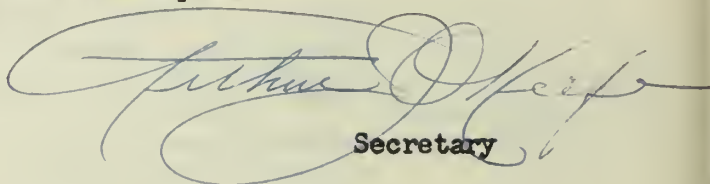
As a matter of interest, the Commission was informed that 160 new Cork Elm trees were planted on Commonwealth Avenue between Arlington Street and Massachusetts Avenue, as part of the 1957 tree planting program.

Seaver Street - Widening & Reconstruction

The Commission studied a plan submitted for approval by the Public Improvement Commission, showing the proposed widening and reconstruction of Seaver Street, Roxbury, on the southwest side adjacent to Franklin Park between Walnut Street and Blue Hill Avenue. The plan is entitled, "City of Boston, Seaver Street, Roxbury", and is dated May 20, 1957 and signed by George G. Hyland, Public Works Commissioner.

The Commission voted unanimously to approve the plan.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:20 o'clock p. m.


Secretary

July 2, 1957

A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at this office, 33 Beacon Street, today, at 10:30 a. m.

Present: Chairman Frank R. Kelley and Associate Commissioners Daniel G. O'Connor, Thomas J. Carty, O. Phillip Snowden, and Harry J. Blake.

Voted, to dispense with reading of minutes of previous meeting.

Castle Island (Concrete Drop Hole)

Mr. H. B. Shannon, Project Manager, and Mr. Martin Dyke, of the New York office of Morrison-Knudsen-Kiewit-Maney, appeared before the Commission for the purpose of requesting a permit for access to the traffic circle area at Castle Island by way of Castle Island Boulevard, which area is under supervision of the Parks and Recreation Department. Previously, permission had been granted to this company to construct a concrete drop hole in the traffic circle at Castle Island with the understanding that access to the Circle would be through the Wiggin Terminal property. This access is not now available.

Corporation Counsel William L. Baxter and Assistant William Kerr were present at the meeting, and a general discussion was held regarding the granting of this request. The Law Department representatives submitted for consideration the proposal that a flat license fee be charged in lieu of the bond for \$5,000 filed by the above-named company. After a lengthy discussion the license fee proposal was rejected and the suggestion was made that the \$5,000 bond be increased to \$15,000.00

On motion of Commissioner Carty, seconded by Commissioner O'Connor, it was unanimously voted that the bond be increased to \$15,000 as a guaranty of the restoration of the traffic circle to its former condition and necessary road repairs that may be required because of the heavy traffic of concrete mixing trucks.

It was further voted that the matter of drawing a new bond in the amount of \$15,000 be referred to the Law Department and that, after execution of said bond, permission be granted to the Morrison-Knudsen-Kiewit-Maney company for the requested entrance route to Castle Island.

Boston Common Garage

Mr. Kerr reported that the mandate of the United States Supreme Court, which upheld the right of the City to grant a tax concession to the builders of the Boston Common underground garage, had not yet been received but that it may be expected within the next two weeks.

The Commission discussed briefly the changes that will be required in the construction plans for the garage due to the decision of Superior Court Justice Paul G. Kirk that the plans do not conform to the provisions of the enabling statute. Mr. Kerr stated that in his opinion the plans as now drawn will have to be changed as much as forty per cent before final approval can be given. He also stated that, if it is so desired, he will arrange for a meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission with Mr. Howard, the architect for the builders, and Mr. Waite, attorney for the opponents to the garage, and Mr. Henry L. Shattuck and other opponents.

The Commission voted to take no action on the matter at this meeting.

Lafayette Mall

Mr. Sidney Shurcliff, architect for the redevelopment of Lafayette Mall on Boston Common, came before the Commission to discuss some proposed changes in the design of sidewalks, flower boxes, benches, sunken gardens, Court of Flags, and other features in the plans for beautification of the Mall. The Commissioners were of the opinion that these changes will materially add to the beauty of the over-all design and therefore instructed Mr. Shurcliff to proceed with the revised plans.

Mr. Shurcliff then stated that it will not be possible to construct the

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Court of Flags within the appropriation of the Parkman Fund for this year. He said he is limited to \$150,000.00 at present, which will provide funds for sidewalk construction, flower beds and other features.

Mr. Shurcliff then read a letter from Mr. Franz H. Dinghausen of Pigeon Cove, Massachusetts, who, with his wife, is willing to offer a prize of \$1,000 for the best model of sculpture that is accepted to adorn the Court of Flags. The Commissioners were of the opinion that this is a matter that might well be placed in the hands of the Trustees of the Fine Arts Museum, and Mr. Shurcliff agreed to consider this suggestion.

Boston Arts Festival

The Secretary read to the Commissioners four communications regarding the Arts Festival, as follows:

1. From Nelson W. Aldrich, General Chairman of the Arts Festival Committee, requesting use of the Public Garden for the Festival in 1958.
2. From Peter Temple, requesting permission be extended from July 15 to July 31 for the cleaning up and rehabilitation of the Garden.
3. Letter from Representative James C. Bayley to the Mayor expressing opposition to the use of the Public Garden for the Arts Festival, speaking for 700 members of the Neighborhood Association of the Back Bay.
4. Letter from Mayor John B. Hynes addressed to persons who had written him protesting the use of the Public Garden for the Festival.

The Commission voted unanimously on the first two matters, as follows:

1. (Request of Mr. Aldrich). Voted not to reconsider the decision of the Commission made in meeting of Wednesday, February 6, 1957, which stated that under no circumstances would a permit be issued for use of the Public Garden for the Arts Festival after 1957. Mr. Aldrich's request was therefore denied.

2. (Request of Mr. Temple). The Commission voted unanimously not to extend the permit beyond July 15 because it is the sense of the Commission that the restoration of the Garden should be done by Park Department employees in conformance with Park practices.

Southwest Expressway

Notation was made, for the record, that since the previous meeting Commissioner Kelley addressed a letter to His Honor the Mayor stating that the Commission is opposed to any land taking in Franklin Park for the extension of the Southwest Expressway, said opposition having been recorded in meeting of the Commission on June 13, 1957.

Commonwealth & Chestnut Hill Avenues

The Commission was informed that since the last meeting, notice has appeared in the press to the effect that ten members of the City's Board of Zoning Adjustment have been subpoenaed in connection with three bills of complaint in equity filed on June 21 in Suffolk Superior Court as the result of a zoning variance granted for the erection of a 16-story office and apartment building. The site of the proposed building is park land at the junction of Commonwealth Avenue and Chestnut Hill Avenue.

The ten Board members are required to file written answers justifying their action by August 26, after which a trial date will be set.

The Secretary read a letter received from the Chief of the Real Estate Division, Corps of Engineers, U. S. Army, regarding the acquisition of additional land on the Cummings Estate for housing facilities for Army personnel. Condemnation proceedings have been instituted in the United States District Court to acquire the land.

The Commission took no action in the matter, deciding to wait until proceedings are made by the United States Supreme Court.

Joslin Park

The Commission was informed that notice has been received from Mr. Paul Hines, Public Relations representative in the Mayor's office, stating that plans are in process of completion for dedication of the park now known as Longwood Park, and the renaming of the park, in honor of Dr. Joslin of the Deaconess Hospital, on July 18.

Castle Island (Fort Independence)

The Commission considered the offer from J. M. Geoghegan, Chief of Real Estate Division, Corps of Engineers, U. S. Army, of outright ownership by the City of Boston of all of Fort Independence except for the existing, limited requirements of the Signal Corps, the offer being subject to approval of the United States Government.

It was the sense of the Commission that the offer of the Government be accepted and that the necessary steps be taken to effect the transfer. The matter is to be referred to the Law Department for action.

Public Improvement Commission - Street Repairs

The Commission was informed that notice has been received from the Public Improvement Commission that orders have been filed with the Register of Deeds for Suffolk County, approved by the Public Improvement Commission and the Mayor, for the following public improvements:

1. Specific repairs to BLUE HILL AVENUE, Roxbury District, between Franklin Park Road and Seaver Street, consisting of the reduction in width of the westerly sidewalk.
2. Specific repairs in SEAVER STREET, Roxbury, between Walnut Avenue and BLUE HILL AVENUE, consisting of the removal of the existing street car reservation, the reduction in width of the existing sidewalk, and the installation of traffic divisional islands.
3. Specific repairs in COLUMBUS AVENUE, Roxbury, between Washington Street and Walnut Avenue, consisting of the reduction in width of existing sidewalks and the installation of traffic divisional islands.

Franklin Park

The Commission studied a report issued by the Finance Commission relating to the proposed transfer of land in Franklin Park to the Boston School Department as a site for a new Technical High School.

The Commissioners then reaffirmed their action taken in meeting of June 13, when they unanimously voted against the transfer of any land in Franklin Park for the purpose of providing a site for a new Boston Technical High School.

Contracts

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The Commission was informed that the following contracts were awarded since the last meeting:

Construction of Playground at Veterans of Foreign Wars Parkway, West Roxbury, Massachusetts - awarded to lowest bidder, Paino-LaCava Company, Inc., 1047 Waltham St., Lexington, Mass. Amount...\$88,597.50.

Lashua Portable Lighting, Inc., Stoughton, Massachusetts, - Floodlighting 10 baseball games and 21 football games, evenings, during the 1957 season, at the rate of \$150 for baseball games and \$200 for football games, the total contract price not to exceed \$5700.00.

Roping and Staking on Playgrounds during night and Sunday baseball and football games in the 1957 season - awarded to F. C. Dolan & Sons, Inc., 18 Aldworth Street, Jamaica Plain, for a contract price not to exceed \$4,970.00.

Extension of time for completion of contract - granted to William P. Herlihy for completion of his contract for "Grading, Surfacing and Improvements at the John J. Connolly Playground, Roxbury". Time extended to September 1, 1957.

Matters of Information

1. A permit was granted to the Air Force Association, Massachusetts Wing, to display an X-F92 Jet Aircraft on Boston Common, in the vicinity of the recruiting booth opposite West Street, on June 19 and 20, 1957, in connection with the Golden Anniversary of the Air Force in New England.

2. The Mayor's "Bicycle Safety" Committee will observe "Bicycle Safety" days in Boston July 8 through July 19, on various playgrounds in the city. The program will feature bicycle inspection, skill tests, etc., with award of certificates. Open to all children under 16 years of age.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:55 o'clock p. m.


Secretary

July 23, 1957.

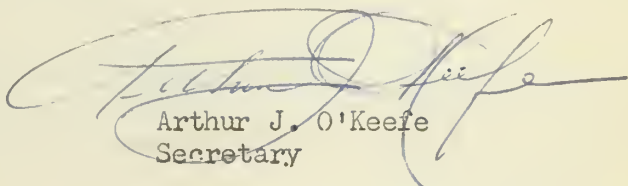
7/23/57

A special meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at the Mayor's office, City Hall, on the afternoon of July 23, 1957. All members of the Commission were present except Mr. Blake. Present also were His Honor Mayor John B. Hynes, the Superintendent of Schools and members of his staff, Mr. Robert Cunniff of the Finance Commission, Mr. John Breen, Director of Administrative Services, and Mr. Daniel J. Byrne, Jr., Chief Engineer of the Parks and Recreation Department.

There was a general discussion on the proposed location of the Southwest Expressway. His Honor the Mayor gave a report of his talk with Commissioner Sheridan of the Department of Public Works of the Commonwealth at a meeting held in the morning of the same day, which was also attended by Commissioner Kelley and Mr. Byrne. The Mayor reported that Commissioner Sheridan had heeded the protest of the Parks & Recreation Commissioners on the proposed route of the Expressway through certain popular and scenic areas of Franklin Park and had agreed to change the route of the Expressway so that it will not interfere with the Franklin Park greenhouses, the zoo, the gardens, and other features in that section of the park. The proposed new route would be located in close proximity to the Shattuck Hospital and would cut across the lower section of Franklin Park known as the Wilderness, and the Scarborough Pond area, extending over to Forest Hills Street. There was general agreement among the Parks and Recreation Commissioners that this route was much more preferable than the original one suggested.

The proposed new route would cut off and set aside an area of Franklin Park containing approximately ten acres, bounded in general by Circuit Drive on the south and east, Williams Street extended on the northeast, Forest Hills Street on the northwest, and Cemetery Road on the west. The Commissioners were of the opinion that this ten-acre area would be a suitable site for the new Technical High School.

Mr. Byrne, the Chief Engineer, was delegated to meet on Wednesday, July 24, with the Superintendent of Schools and other school officials at this proposed site to view the area and ascertain from the school officials if they were interested in obtaining this particular site for the construction of the school building.



Arthur J. O'Keefe
Secretary

August 8, 1957

A meeting of the Parks & Recreation Commission was held at this office, 33 Beacon Street, today, at 10:45 a. m.

Present: Commissioner Frank R. Kelley and Associate Commissioners Daniel G. O'Connor, Thomas J. Carty, O. Phillip Snowden, and Harry J. Blake.

Also present during discussion on the Boston Common Garage matter were Corporation Counsel William L. Baxter and his chief legal assistant William H. Kerr; Mr. James D. St. Clair and Mr. Norman B. Asher, counsel for Boston Common Garage, Inc., and Mr. Edward Howard of the engineering firm of Whitman and Howard; Mr. Stanley Parker, former chairman of the Planning Board of the City of Boston, and Mr. Charles W. Eliot, Secretary of the Boston Common Society and President of the Massachusetts branch of Landscape Architects; Traffic Commissioner William Arthur Reilly and his Chief Engineer Joseph O'Connor; Mr. Daniel J. Byrne, Chief Engineer of the Parks and Recreation Department, and Mr. Arthur J. O'Keefe, Secretary to the Parks & Recreation Commission.

Boston Common Garage

Discussion revolved around certain amendments to be made to existing plans of the Boston Common underground garage, the extension of time to be allowed for incorporating these amended plans with other existing plans, and the selection of an absolute deadline date for furnishing of a performance bond.

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Mr. Stanley Parker and Mr. Charles W. Eliot presented an alternate plan for an underground entrance at either end of MacArthur Mall, in place of the center entrance as shown on existing plans. They both stated that they are in favor of this type of ramp but also desired to be recorded as being unalterably opposed to the construction of a garage under any conditions.

Mr. St. Clair stated that it would be impracticable to construct the garage with the type of ramps suggested by Mr. Parker and Mr. Eliot, because of water conditions, rain, and snow and ice in the winter season, and that this would be verified by Mr. Howard later in the day. Mr. St. Clair stated that all of the Common will be kept as at present, that the garage will be squeezed into a box type structure which will allow for 24 inches of gravel, peat and loan on the surface as required under the contract.

Mr. Reilly and Mr. O'Connor, of the Traffic Commission, discussed briefly the flow of traffic in the area of the proposed garage and they stated that in their opinion the flow of traffic could be handled satisfactorily under the existing garage plans.

Mr. Baxter informed the Commission that it is advisable that we now learn the financial condition of the firm known as Boston Common Garage, Inc., and he spoke in detail of the advisability of having action as soon as possible. This followed a statement previously made by Commissioner Kelley that the Commission members are of the opinion that final action of some kind must be taken today because of the unfavorable light in which the Commission has been placed by successive delays in starting construction work on the garage.

The meeting recessed at 1 p. m., and reconvened at 2 p. m., at which time Mr. Howard, construction engineer, discussed with the Commission the height between floors and ceilings in the so-called squeeze garage. Under the older plans the height was about 9'5", but allowing for the thickness of the flooring, the net height was about 8'4". Under the plans for the squeeze box structure, the height would be about 7'3". He stated that three major oil companies, as well as garage ramp authorities, have ok'd the amended construction plans.

A general discussion between the attorneys and engineers and the Parks and Recreation Commissioners developed on the length of time required to present revised plans and performance bond. The Commission insisted that a date must be determined upon today and it was their opinion that a performance bond should be furnished within a 13-day period. The Counsel for Boston Common Garage, Inc., requested a November 1st date. After considerable discussion the date of October 15 was agreed upon by all parties and the following vote was adopted:

VOTED: That in accordance with the statement of its counsel this day Boston Common Garage, Inc. cause to be prepared and presented to this Commission not later than 10 a. m. on Thursday, August 15, 1957, revised sheets amending plans presented by it in February of 1956 so as to show the garage structure so located that the grade of Boston Common will remain unchanged and, further, that Boston Common Garage, Inc. cause to be prepared and presented to this Commission before 10 a. m. on said day a certificate by Whitman & Howard of construction cost of said garage and an instrument agreeing to file a performance bond in such amount with this Commission not later than 5 p. m., Tuesday, October 15, 1957, which day and hour is hereby declared to be of the essence of this vote, and further agreeing that if such bond is not filed for any reason whatsoever, the lease and contract which Boston Common Garage, Inc., under the name of Motor Park, Inc., made with the City of Boston on November 3, 1955, shall expire, and in such event Boston Common Garage, Inc. shall thereafter make no claim or demand thereunder.

Franklin Park--School Site

The Secretary reported that a Legislative bill, which, if enacted, will transfer about ten acres of land in Franklin Park to the School Department for a Technical High School site, is still pending before the Legislature and as yet had not been admitted for action. He also reported that since the last meeting of the Commission, Chief Engineer Daniel J. Byrne had met with school

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officials at the Franklin Park site so that all parties may be in agreement as to the proposed location, and that at a subsequent date Commissioner Kelley, Engineer Byrne, Secretary O'Keefe, and Mr. Kerr made a trip to the site.

Central Artery

A communication dated July 24, 1957, from Commissioner Carl A. Sheridan of the State Department of Public Works to Honorable John B. Hynes, was read to the Commission. The communication referred to some suggested changes in the tentative location of Route 1 (FAI-1) in the City of Boston, which had been discussed at a conference in the Mayor's office on July 22, 1957.

After considering the suggested changes, the Commission went on record as not being opposed to the tentative location of Route 1 relocation from Boston-Milton line to the intersection of Morton Street and the American Legion Highway, and the new suggested location of that portion from Morton Street to Washington Street on the southerly end of Franklin Park.

Franklin Park Zoo

The Commission was informed that the Legislative bill which, if enacted, will transfer the Franklin Park Zoo to the Metropolitan District Commission, is now before the Ways and Means Committee.

No action in the matter was taken at today's meeting.

Post Office Square

Mr. Kerr gave a progressive report on the reconstruction of Post Office Square, which area was transferred to the Parks and Recreation Department from the Public Works Department, on July 8, 1957. He spoke briefly on terms of agreement with Harry E. Verra, operator of the refreshment privilege at Post Office Square, regarding the removal and relocation of the refreshment stand.

Charlesgate West

The Commission considered a request of Attorney Hirsh Freed, representing his client Elpanco, Inc., for a one-year extension of time for the fulfillment of its covenant, secured by \$5,000 in U. S. Treasury bonds, by which it agreed to cover on or before January 1, 1958 the southerly wall of the Pitney-Bowes Building and the northeasterly wall of the Dictaphone Building, in Charlesgate West, either with a brick veneer or by the construction of a third building adjacent to and between said buildings.

It was voted unanimously to grant a one-year extension of time, to January 1, 1959, for fulfillment of its covenant.

Chestnut Hill Avenue & Wallingford Road

Consideration was given to the request of Homes, Inc., for purchase of ten acres of park land at Chestnut Hill Avenue and Wallingford Road, Brighton.

Voted, not to sell this land as it is required for park and playground purposes.

Chestnut Hill Avenue-Comm. Avenue-Cleveland Circle

The Commission considered the request of Boston Edison Company for purchase of park land containing 297,981 square feet, bounded by Chestnut Hill Avenue, Beacon Street, Commonwealth Avenue and land of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, or, in the event the land is not for sale, for an easement over said land for the purpose of laying an underground oil-filled cable.

Voted, that the matter be referred to the Corporation Counsel for study and report.

Voted, that the Corporation Counsel be requested to have a new appraisal made of park land located at the junction of Commonwealth Avenue and Chestnut Hill Avenue, Brighton, and to send a copy of the appraisal to this office when completed.

Municipal Research Bureau

The Commission was informed of criticism made by the Municipal Research Bureau of the practice in city departments of employing chauffeurs to drive certain supervisory personnel during the performance of their duties. In the Parks and Recreation Department, this involves six officials. The Commissioner report to the Mayor was read to the Board.

Building Permits

The following building permits, referred by the Building Department to this department, were approved:

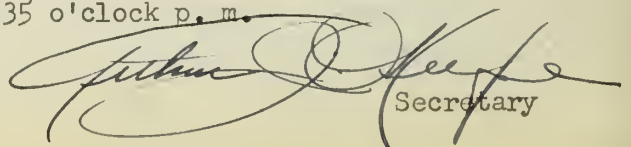
53 Beacon Street - Change occupancy from publishing company and warehouse to offices - install elevator, new heating and air conditioning system - install fire stairs, etc. Request of Beacon Hill Trust.

413-415 Commonwealth Avenue - On second floor lecture room, install ventilating fan - no part of ventilating shutter to project beyond face of exterior wall.

Contracts: The following contracts have been awarded to the low bidder in each case, since the last meeting of the Commission:

1. Resurfacing and Widening St. Thomas More Road, Brighton, Mass.
Contractor: John McCourt Co., 28 Wolcott Rd., Readville.
Amount,...\$20,502.50
2. Painting and Repairs at Cabot Street Bathhouse, Roxbury, Mass.
Contractor: F. C. Dolan & Sons, Inc., 18 Aldworth Street, Jamaica Plain, Mass.
Amount,...\$19,785.00
3. Development of Burial Areas at Parks & Recreation Department Cemeteries, Boston, Mass. Contractor: J. Gavigan, Inc., 75 Freeport Street, Canton, Mass.
Amount....\$14,475.00
4. Painting and Repairs at North Bennet Street Bathhouse, Boston, Mass. Contractor: F. C. Dolan & Sons, Inc., 18 Aldworth Street, Jamaica Plain, Mass.
Amount....\$15,210.00
5. Furnishing and Laying Electric Service Pipe at Olmstead Park, West Roxbury, Mass. Contractor: John J. Botti, 1050 Adams Street, Dorchester, Mass.
Amount....\$ 5,440.00
6. Furnishing and Installing a New Steam Heating Boiler at the Refectory Building, Franklin Park, West Roxbury, Mass.
Contractor: M & S Heating Co., 27 Causeway Street, Boston, Massachusetts.
Amount....\$ 3,688.00
7. Bituminous Concrete Pavement at Franklin Park Service Yard, West Roxbury, Massachusetts. Contractor: Baker & Co., Inc., 3475 Washington Street, Jamaica Plain, Mass.
Amount....\$13,593.75
8. Reconstruction of the Mall on Commonwealth Avenue from Arlington Street to Massachusetts Avenue, Boston, Mass. Contractor: Baker & Co., Inc., 3475 Washington St., Jamaica Plain. Amt. \$44,456.50

The meeting was adjourned at 5:35 o'clock p. m.


Secretary

August 15, 1957

A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commissioners was held at the office of the Parks and Recreation Commission, 33 Beacon Street, today, at 10:15 o'clock a. m.

Present: Commissioner Frank R. Kelley and Associate Commissioners Daniel G. O'Connor, Thomas J. Carty, O. Phillip Snowden, and Harry J. Blake; also Chief Engineer Daniel J. Byrne, Jr., and Secretary Arthur J. O'Keefe of the Parks and Recreation Department.

Also present during that part of the meeting devoted to discussion of the Boston Common Garage were the following: Corporation Counsel William L. Baxter and his Chief Legal Assistant William H. Kerr; Mr. Leon Shelby, President of Boston Common Garage, Inc., and Mr. James D. St. Clair, attorney for Boston Common Garage, Inc., and his assistant Mr. Norman B. Asher.

Voted, to dispense with reading of minutes of previous meeting.

Boston Common Garage

Mr. Baxter and Mr. Kerr presented to the Commissioners the Amendment of Lease and Construction Contract including plans. This current Amendment was drawn so as to conform to a decision handed down by Judge Kirk of the Superior Court which stated that the provisions of the garage Statute require the garage to be entirely underground.

The amended lease was read in its entirety by the Commission, and comments were made by the Commissioners and legal counsel on various points in the lease.

It was then unanimously

VOTED, That this Commission execute and upon approval of the Mayor of the City of Boston deliver the Amendment of Lease and Construction Contract, including plans attached thereto and made a part thereof, between the City of Boston and Boston Common Garage, Inc., formerly Motor Park, Inc., which was this day laid before this Commission by the Chairman, and that the Chairman be, and hereby is, authorized and directed to transmit said Amendment of Lease and Construction Contract to the Mayor for his approval.

The Amendment of Lease and Construction Contract was then signed by all Commissioners and by Mr. Leon Shelby, President of Boston Common Garage, Inc. The Amendment and the plans were then joined and were sealed by Mr. John McCarthy, Sealer of Weights and Measures for the City of Boston.

In accordance with a vote of the Parks and Recreation Commission passed at a previous meeting, Whitman and Howard, engineers for Boston Common Garage, Inc., presented to the Commission a certificate showing construction cost of the garage. The certificate stated that in the opinion of Whitman and Howard, the construction cost of the garage including engineering and architectural services will be \$14,000,000.

Lafayette Mall

The Commission considered a communication from E. B. Myott, Superintendent of Engineering for the Metropolitan Transit Authority, relating to the removal of the kiosk at the northerly end of the Boylston Street subway station on Boston Common and the apportionment of cost of removal between the City and the Metropolitan Transit Authority. The matter had previously been referred to the Corporation Counsel for an opinion as to the City's proper share in the removal cost.

Mr. Baxter reported that no decision had yet been reached and that the matter would be referred to Mr. Kerr for further study.

Voted, that the matter be laid on the table until a report is received from Mr. Kerr.

Playground U.S.A. Day

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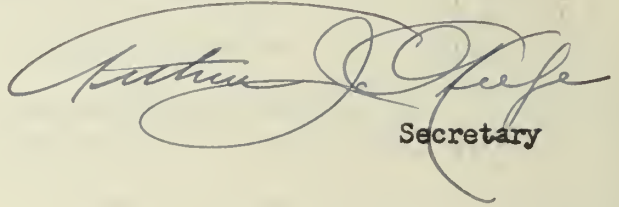
Voted, that letters of appreciation be sent to officials of station WBZ-TV and to certain Parks and Recreation Department personnel for their efforts in arranging and conducting the programs on Boston Common during Playground U.S.A. Day, August 9, 1957.

Contracts

The Commission was informed that bids will be opened on August 20, 1957, for the following work to be done under contract:

1. Construction of Angell Memorial Plaza, Post Office Square, Boston.
(This area was recently transferred to the Parks and Recreation Department). The construction cost will be shared jointly by this department and the MSPCA.
2. Furnishing and Erecting Chain Barrier Fence at the Public Garden, Boston.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:55 o'clock p. m.


Secretary

September 10, 1957

A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at this office, 33 Beacon Street, today, at 10.45 o'clock a. m.

Present: Commissioner Frank R. Kelley and Associate Commissioners Daniel G. O'Connor, Thomas J. Carty, O. Phillip Snowden, and Harry J. Blake.

Voted, to dispense with reading of minutes of previous meeting.

Drainage Pipe from State House to Boston Common

Mr. Maurice A. Reidy, engineer employed by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to construct a fireproof vault under the State House, was present to explain to the Board his request to connect an emergency drain pipe from the very lowest level under the State House to the drainage system on Boston Common. Inasmuch as part of the vault is approximately three stories below ground and is at the lowest point of the entire State House, it is vulnerable to flooding if a large water main or some other pipe should break and the flow could not be controlled before it spread throughout the basements. The purpose of the emergency drain is to convey the water by gravity away from the vault.

The vault is intended to provide fireproof storage facilities for many priceless historical documents and objects, many of which have been preserved from the earliest days of the Commonwealth and have great historical interest; and also for approximately 40,000 rare and irreplaceable volumes of great value and interest.

Mr. Reidy explained that the easiest and least costly way to connect the drain pipe to a sewage system would be to cross Beacon Street from the entrance of the West Wing of the State House and enter upon the Common to connect with the nearest catchbasin, which would be some 200 feet inside the fence alongside the Common.

Mr. Kerr, Chief Legal Assistant in the City Law Department, suggested that it might be better to make a direct connection with the drainage system of the Frog Pond.

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Commissioner Kelley stated to the Board and to Mr. Reidy that he believes the department would be subject to criticism of the press and others if a large excavation is made in Boston Common for this purpose, but that if the right to enter upon the Common is taken by eminent domain proceedings, then there could be no criticism of the department.

Mr. Kerr stated that he is of the opinion that special legislation may be necessary to accomplish the purpose.

Mr. Reidy stated that he would discuss the matter with the department in the State House that is involved in the contract for construction of the vault and would explain to them the problems associated with connecting the drain to the Boston Common drainage system.

No further action was taken on the matter at this meeting.

Franklin Park Zoo--Transfer

A brief discussion was held by the Board members regarding the proposed transfer of the Franklin Park Zoo to the Metropolitan District Commission and, although no action was taken by the Board, some of the members look with disfavor on this transfer, especially because it also involves the transfer of the rose and herbaceous gardens. Also, because the net saving to the city will not be great because the city will still be obliged to pay approximately 60% of the maintenance cost of the zoo, this being the percentage of all MDC maintenance costs charged to the City of Boston.

Mr. Kerr informed the Board that it is the desire of the Citizens Committee and His Honor the Mayor that the zoo be transferred to the Metropolitan District Commission.

Proposed Memorial to Sacco-Vanzetti

The Board considered the request of Mr. Aldino Felicani for the placing of a bronze bas-relief of Sacco and Vanzetti on Boston Common.

Voted unanimously to deny the request.

Boston Common Underground Garage

The Board studied Chapter 701 of the Acts of 1957, which provides for the construction and operation of a garage for the parking of motor vehicles under Boston Common in the City of Boston and creates the Boston Common Garage Authority. This Act was approved in the House of Representatives on August 26 and by the Senate on August 28, 1957, and was enacted into law on September 4 with the approval of the Governor.

Mr. Kerr informed the Board that if Boston Common Garage, Inc. places a bond by October 15, 1957 and is ready to construct the garage, then the above legislative act will be of no effect. But, if the city must proceed under this act, the approval of the City Council and the Mayor is required. The raising of money would then be required by an appointed Authority. Mr. Kerr is doubtful whether money could be raised under this plan, as money has not as yet been raised to purchase the Summer Tunnel under a similar plan in charge of a Port Authority.

Hyde Park Ave.-Glenwood Ave., - Playground

The Commission again considered construction of a small children's play area at Hyde Park Avenue and Glenwood Avenue, Hyde Park and it was the opinion of the members that a play area was required at this location.

It was therefore voted that a small children's play area be constructed at this location contingent upon an appropriation being made available for the purpose from the account "Sales of City Property".

Fairview Cemetery--Land Acquisition

The matter of acquisition of land with building thereon, abutting Fairview

9/10/57

Cemetery, which may be required for cemetery extension, was discussed by the Board, and also the possibility that said land could be paid for from cemetery funds.

Mr. Kerr informed the Board that any purchase of land for cemetery extension can not be paid for from Cemetery funds but must be acquired with funds from the appropriation "Sales of City Land".

Post Office Square

Two communications were read to the Commission, one from Dr. Eric H. Hansen, President of the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, and the other from Commissioner Frank R. Kelley in reply thereto. Both letters restate the agreement whereby the City, through the Parks and Recreation Department, is to spend \$10,000 for the beautifying of this area, and the MSPCA is to spend an equal amount for the same purpose.

Hebrew Home for Aged

The Board considered a communication from Attorney Herbert W. Cohen, representing the Trustees of the Hebrew Home for Aged, requesting a change in the language of the deed dated October 29, 1956 conveying the parcel of land known as Joyce Kilmer Park from the City of Boston to the Hebrew Home for Aged. The purpose of the proposed change is to remove a restriction in the deed as presently written.

Attorney Cohen suggests that in order to accomplish the desired reformation of the deed, the words "action is required either under Section 19 or Section 20 of Chapter 488 of the Acts of 1924, as amended, or by the Zoning Commission or the Board of Appeal under Chapter 665 of the Acts of 1956 or a zoning regulation adopted under said Chapter 665" as appearing in said deed be stricken out and the following words be substituted in place thereof: "A variance or a change in the boundaries of districts or an amendment to zoning regulations shall be required except a variance, change or amendment which may be necessary in order to use the said land for the construction thereon of a home for aged."

On motion of Commissioner Carty, seconded by Commissioner O'Connor, it was unanimously voted that the matter be laid on the table until court proceedings presently pending, brought by the Hebrew Home for Aged, are concluded or have reached a more decisive stage than now exists.

Castle Island Refreshment Privilege

Voted, to grant to Mrs. Mary M. Sullivan, 9 Highland Street, Roxbury, a renewal of the refreshment privilege at Castle Island, South Boston, for a term of five years beginning January 1, 1958, at rental of \$1000.00 per year during the term of the lease.

The following matters were called to the attention of the Commission:

Building Permits:

31 Commonwealth Avenue - Change occupancy from rooming house to nine apartments. Request of Bulfinch Realty Inc. Approved.

154-170 Commonwealth Avenue - Legalize storage of 10,063 gallons of inflammable fluids. Request of Vendome Realty Trust. Approved.

Contracts: The following advertised contracts were awarded to the low bidder in each case:

Furnishing and Erecting Chain Barrier Fence at the Public Garden, Boston, Mass. Contractor - P. J. Dinn & Co., 60 Freeport St., Dorchester. \$5,547.

Construction of Angell Memorial Plaza, Post Office Square, Boston, Mass. Contractor - Martin F. Kelly Co., Inc., 75 Stedman St., J. P. \$9,840.

Painting and Repairs at East Boston Stadium, E. Boston, Mass. Contractor - F. C. Dolan & Sons, Inc. 18 Aldworth St., J. P. \$9,281.

Absence of Commissioner from City

9/10/57

Commissioner Kelley has received approval from His Honor the Mayor to be absent from the City, from Thursday, September 12 through Friday, September 27, for the purpose of attending the National Convention of the American Legion in Atlantic City and the National Meeting of the American Institute of Park Executives in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Daniel J. Byrne, Jr., Chief Engineer, is to attend the American Institute of Park Executives' meeting as a delegate, in Minneapolis, from September 22 through September 27.

In the absence of Commissioner Kelley, Arthur J. O'Keefe, Executive Secretary, is authorized, with the approval of the Mayor, to act in place of Commissioner Kelley and to sign all necessary papers for the proper conduct of the business of the Parks and Recreation Department.

The meeting was adjourned at


Secretary

October 22, 1957

A special meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was called today, October 22, 1957, for the purpose of voting on the matter of asking for proposals for leasing space for, constructing, and operating an underground garage for the parking of Motor Vehicles under Boston Common.

Present and voting were: Commissioner Frank R. Kelley and Associate Commissioners Daniel G. O'Connor, Thomas J. Carty, O. Phillip Snowden and Harry J. Blake.

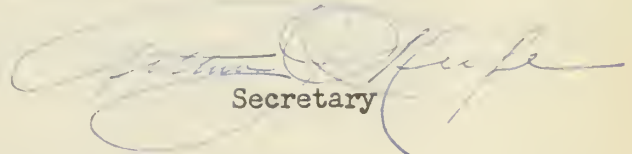
It was unanimously

VOTED: To ask for invitations for "Proposals for Leasing Space for, Constructing, and Operating an Underground Garage for the Parking of Motor Vehicles Under Boston Common".

It was also unanimously

VOTED: That proposals must be submitted on special forms set up by the Commission, said forms to be obtained at the office of the Parks and Recreation Commission, 33 Beacon Street, Boston, between the hours of 9 A.M. and 5 P.M., daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, and that proposals must be sealed and accompanied by a bid deposit of \$50,000 and placed with the Commission at its office, 33 Beacon Street, Boston, Massachusetts, before 12 o'clock noon on Friday, November 8, 1957, at which time and place proposals will be publicly opened and read.

There being no further business, the meeting was then adjourned.


Secretary

November 8, 1957

A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at this office, 33 Beacon Street, today, at 10:30 o'clock a. m., Commissioner Kelley presiding.

Present: Commissioner Frank R. Kelley and Associate Commissioners Daniel G. O'Connor, Thomas J. Carty, O. Phillip Snowden, and Harry J. Blake.

Voted, to dispense with reading of minutes of previous meeting.

Refectory Building Refreshment Concession

The Commission considered the request of John P. Burke for cancellation of his existing lease of the Refectory Building (Franklin Park) Refreshment Concession, which was made for a five-year period from October 1, 1955 to September 30, 1960, and awarding him two new leases for the same privilege for a five-year period commencing December 1, 1957 and ending on November 30, 1962, but dividing the leased area as follows:

One lease for the refreshment privilege in the Refectory Building and at the 9th tee on the golf course and at the Bear Dens so-called, in Franklin Park, for a rental of \$3500 per year, for a five-year term.

Another lease for the refreshment privilege in the booths at the Lion House and Elk Range, in Franklin Park, for a rental of \$1500 per year, for a five-year term.

The reason for this request is that the area described in the second lease listed above will be transferred to the Metropolitan District Commission, along with certain other areas in Franklin Park including much of the Zoo, on January 1, 1958.

It was voted, subject to the approval of His Honor the Mayor, to award the two leases as described, to Mr. John P. Burke for the five-year term beginning December 1, 1957 and ending on November 30, 1962, at rental of \$3500 per year for the Refectory Building and included locations, and at \$1500 per year for the privilege in the booths at the Lion House and Elk Range.

Malloch's Wharf

Voted, subject to the approval of His Honor the Mayor, to award a one-year lease of the Malloch's Wharf property to Vernon L. Hart and Robert B. Egan, d/b/a Bay State Boat Company, for boat yard purposes, but with the understanding that the lease is subject to cancellation when the property is transferred to the Real Property Division. Rental will be at the same rate as heretofore, \$160 per year, payable monthly.

Coin Lock Concession

Voted, subject to the approval of His Honor the Mayor, to award another one-year contract for maintenance and operation of the convenience stations on Boston Common, to the American Coin Lock Co., Inc., Pawtucket, Rhode Island, with an increase in payment to the Company, by the City, from \$4500 to \$5000, the new lease to begin on November 1, 1957 and terminate on October 31, 1958.

Proposed Playground, Glenwood & Hyde Park Avenues

The Commission members were informed that a notice was received from the City Council stating that the Council under date of September 17, approved by the Mayor on October 7, appropriated the sum of \$25,000 from the special account, "Sales of City Property" for the construction of a playground at Glenwood Avenue and Hyde Park Avenue.

On motion of Commissioner Carty, seconded by Commissioner Snowden, it was voted to request the Law Department to have an appraisal made of the vacant land at the corner of Glenwood Avenue and Hyde Park Avenue, in Hyde Park, containing approximately 20,555 square feet, preparatory to taking this land for playground purposes.

Lafayette Mall--Boston Common

11/8/57

A letter from the Art Commission, approving plans for memorials on Lafayette Mall in connection with reconstruction and beautifying of the Mall, was read to the Commission.

The Commission was also informed that invitation bids for reconstruction of Lafayette Mall were sent to the following, on recommendation of Shurcliff, Shurcliff & Merrill, architects for the work. The bids are to be opened on November 13, 1957, at 2 o'clock p. m. -

Connolly Brothers, Inc., Beverly Farms, Massachusetts
M. E. Hennessy Co., Inc., 4 Cypress Street, Brookline
Martin F. Kelly Co., Inc., 75 Stedman Street, Jamaica Plain
George B. H. Macomber Co., 25 Fordham Road, Brighton
C. C. Temple Construction Co., 729 Boylston Street, Boston
Tredennick-Billings Co., 10 High Street, Boston
S. A. Allen Construction Co., Inc., 330 Rutherford Ave., Charlestown
Richard White & Son, Inc., 70 Crescent Street, West Newton, Mass.

Lasell Street--Addington Road, W.R.

The Commission was informed that under date of October 24, 1957, the Committee on Foreclosed Real Estate of the Real Property Department voted to transfer the city-owned lot of land, containing 3937 square feet, located on the southeasterly side of Lasell Street, West Roxbury, being lot #155 on Bates and Chellman Plan dated July 1, 1929, from the care, custody, control and management of the Commissioner of Real Property to the care, custody, control and management of the Park Department for park purposes.

The Parks and Recreation Commission voted unanimously to accept transfer of this property to the Parks and Recreation Department.

Building Permits

The following building permits, referred to this department by the Building Department, were approved:

- 474 Commonwealth Avenue - Leveling off of present dirt area, to be replaced by cement and flagstone. Request of Howard Levine.
- 333 Commonwealth Avenue - Change occupancy from home for the aged to home for aged and nursing home. Request of Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Boston.
- 135 Commonwealth Avenue - Legalize occupancy for school. Request of Ruth and John Breing.

Contracts

The Commission was informed that the following contract work had been approved since the last meeting of the Commission:

Contract for "Furnishing and Erecting Park Benches at the Public Garden, Boston, Mass." Awarded to F. C. Dolan & Sons, Inc., 18 Aldworth Street, Jamaica Plain, Mass. Amount...\$7,660.00

With the approval of His Honor the Mayor, the following contract was amended: "Construction of Playground at Veterans of Foreign Wars Playground, West Roxbury, Mass." Contractor, Paino LaCava Co., Inc., 1047 Waltham Street, Lexington, Massachusetts:-

2600 cubic yards peat removed and re-used @ \$1.20 per c.y...	\$3,120.00
Original estimate	\$88,597.50
Amendment	<u>3,120.00</u>

New total of contract \$91,717.50

This contract extended to November 15, 1957.

**

Contracts (Cont.)

11/8/57

The time for completion of contract for "Reconstruction of the Mall on Commonwealth Avenue from Arlington Street to Massachusetts Avenue, Boston, Massachusetts", was extended to June 1, 1958. Contractor, Baker & Co., Inc. 3475 Washington Street, Boston, Massachusetts.

Northeastern University

A communication was read to the Commissioners which was received from Dr. Carl S. Ell, President of Northeastern University, dated October 3, 1957, relating to the desire of the University to acquire park land on Huntington Avenue as a site for a home for the University president. Commissioner Kelley's reply to this letter, dated October 7, was also read.

For Information of Commissioners

Hanson Street

The Commission was informed that the City Council and the Mayor, on September 30 and October 1 respectively, set up a fund of \$20,000 for the acquisition and development of the Hanson Street (South End) area for play purposes, and that on October 28 a special draft in the amount of \$2200 was forwarded to the City Auditor for the purchase of the land. The Commission had voted to purchase this land under date of June 13, 1957.

**

Editorial: An editorial of November 6, appearing in the Boston Globe regarding parking on Boston Common, was read to the Commission.

**

Christmas Festival: Plans are being made to assist the Christmas Festival Committee, of which Commissioner Blake is Chairman, by the erection of a large Christmas Tree on Boston Common, also the erection of a Chapel, the Nativity Scene, the decoration of the Parkman Bandstand, etc., and the erection of some 30 to 35 Christmas trees in other sections of the city.

**

Budget 1958: The annual budget has been submitted to the Budget Director and the Mayor. The total of the Parks and Recreation budget (Parks Division) is \$4,047,054.05, an increase of \$228,260.05 over 1957. The Cemetery Division budget for 1958 is \$431,706, an increase of \$73,546 over 1957.

Absence of Commissioner from City

With the approval of His Honor the Mayor, Commissioner Kelley will be absent from the City during the period November 18 through November 22, to attend a meeting of the National American Legion Convention Committee at Indianapolis, Indiana, as the representative of the Mayor and the City.

During this period Arthur J. O'Keefe, Executive Secretary, has been delegate to sign all payrolls, requisitions, bonds, deeds, etc., and other papers necessary for the proper conduct of the department.

Boston Common Underground Garage

The Commission then turned its attention to the advertised proposal for the "Leasing of Space for, Constructing, and Operating an Underground Garage for the Parking of Motor Vehicles Under Boston Common", bids for which were to be opened at 12 o'clock noon today, November 8, 1957.

The members of the Commission were informed that the following persons or firms had requested and received a copy of the proposal from the Parks and Recreation Department office:

Brown-Rudnick-Freed, 85 Devonshire Street, Boston
Michael F. Healy, 25 Huntington Avenue, Boston
Court Street Parking, 22 Court Street, Boston
M. DeMatteo Construction Co., 200 Hancock Street, Quincy, Mass.
Parking Authority, City of Newark, 1, New Jersey (P.O.Box 594)
(For information purposes only)

11/4/57

John L. Donoghue, Room 1920 - 20 No. Wacker Drive, Chicago 6, Ill.
(For information purposes. Designer of Michigan Avenue
Garage, Chicago; Columbus, Ohio, proposed garage; Drake
Hotel, Chicago)

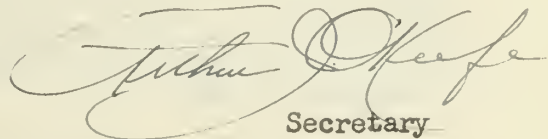
Joseph McCarthy, Director George Robert White Fund, City Hall,
Boston, Massachusetts.

At 12 o'clock noon the bid deposit box was opened in the presence of the members of the Commission and representatives of Boston papers. The opening of the box disclosed that no bids had been received.

The matter of construction of a garage under Boston Common was then laid on the table to await further consideration and planning.

During discussion on this subject, a letter from Samuel Eliot to Mr. Louis Perini (copy of which had been sent to Commissioner Kelley) was read to the Commission. In the letter Mr. Eliot stated that in his opinion the construction of a garage under Boston Common is impractical and financially unwise.

The meeting was adjourned at 1 P.M.


Secretary

December 31, 1957

A special meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held today, December 31, 1957, at 10:30 o'clock a. m., to consider and act upon the proposed transfer of care and control of Franklin Park Zoo from the Parks and Recreation Commission of the City of Boston to the Metropolitan District Commission of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Present: Commissioner Frank R. Kelley and Associate Commissioners Daniel G. O'Connor, Thomas J. Carty, O. Phillip Snowden, and Harry J. Blake.

After due consideration of the above-mentioned proposed transfer of Parks and Recreation Department property, the Commission

VOTED: To transfer care and control of Franklin Park Zoo from the Parks and Recreation Commission of the City of Boston to the Metropolitan District Commission of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, in accordance with the provisions of General Laws (Ter.Ed.) c. 92, s. 87, said transfer to take effect at 12:01 A.M. on Wednesday, January 1, 1958, and to continue in effect until the aforesaid portion of Franklin Park is acquired by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts under Chapter 702 of the Acts of 1957.

Following is copy of the Instrument of Transfer executed today by the Parks and Recreation Commission of the City of Boston and the Metropolitan District Commission of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts:

"TRANSFER OF CARE AND CONTROL
of
FRANKLIN PARK ZOO
from
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
of the
CITY OF BOSTON
to
METROPOLITAN DISTRICT COMMISSION
of the
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

"THIS INSTRUMENT executed this thirty-first day of December, 1957, under

12/31/57

General Laws (Ter.Ed.) c. 92, s. 87, by the Parks and Recreation Commission of the City of Boston and the Metropolitan District Commission of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts,

"WITNESSETH

"1. That said Parks and Recreation Commission does hereby transfer to said Metropolitan District Commission, and said Metropolitan District Commission does hereby accept from said Parks and Recreation Commission the transfer of, that portion of Franklin Park in the City of Boston bounded by Seaver Street, Blue Hill Avenue, Glen Lane, the northerly road running from Glen Lane at Valley Gate to Pierpont Road, Pierpont Road, and the road running from Pierpont Road to Seaver Street opposite Elm Hill Avenue, including the zoo and other facilities thereon and the bears and bear dens in Long Crouch Woods;

"2. That said transfer is for care and control, including police protection

"3. That said transfer shall take effect at 12:01 A. M. on Wednesday, January 1, 1958;

"4. That said transfer shall continue in effect until the aforesaid portion of Franklin Park is acquired by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts under Chapter 702 of the Acts of 1957, at which time the transfer hereby effected shall, without further action of the parties hereto, automatically terminate both as to that part of the land and facilities hereby transferred which is so acquired and as to any part of the land and facilities hereby transferred which is not so acquired; and

"5. That it is mutually agreed that all expenses of the care and maintenance of the land, zoo and other facilities hereby transferred which shall be incurred during the period of transfer shall be borne and paid by said Metropolitan District Commission.

"IN WITNESS WHEREOF this instrument is executed the day and year first above written.

"Parks and Recreation Commission
of the City of Boston

" Metropolitan District Commission

By Frank R. Kelley
Chairman

By C. W. Greenough
Commissioner

Harry J. Blake

Harold E. Stevens
Associate Commissioner

Daniel G. O'Connor

Milton Cook
Associate Commissioner

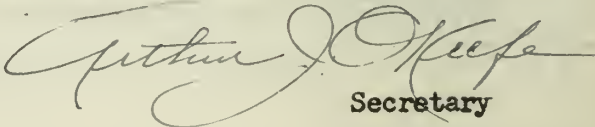
O. Phillip Snowden

David J. Mintz
Associate Commissioner

Thomas J. Carty
Associate Commissioners "

John Hill
Associate Commissioner "

The meeting was adjourned at 11 o'clock A. M.


Secretary



MINUTES OF MEETINGS
OF
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

1958 -

January 14, 1958.

A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at this office, 33 Beacon Street, Boston, today, at 11:10 o'clock a. m.

Present: Commissioner Frank R. Kelley and Associate Commissioners Daniel G. O'Connor, Thomas J. Carty, O. Phillip Snowden and Harry J. Blake.

Voted: To dispense with reading of minutes of previous meeting.

Arts Festival

The Commission considered the request of the Boston Arts Festival Committee for use of the Public Garden as a location for the Arts Festival in 1958 although the Festival Committee had been informed, following vote of the Parks and Recreation Commission of February 6, 1957, that no permit would be granted for use of the Garden for this purpose subsequent to 1957.

The Commission discussed at length the many reasons advanced by the Festival Committee for use of the Public Garden and also the requests of many prominent citizens who had written to His Honor the Mayor asking that the Festival be continued at the Garden location in 1958.

By a vote of three to two, the Commissioners then

VOTED: To rescind their action of February 6, 1957 whereby officials of the Arts Festival were informed that they would be granted permission to hold the Festival on the Public Garden for the year 1957 and that such permission was being granted with the understanding that it would not be renewed in any subsequent year for the Public Garden location.

Those in favor of rescinding were Commissioners O. Phillip Snowden, Daniel G. O'Connor and Harry J. Blake. Those against rescinding were Commissioners Frank R. Kelley and Thomas J. Carty.

The question of granting permission for use of the Public Garden for the Arts Festival of 1958 was then put to the Commissioners, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To grant the use of the Public Garden for Arts Festival purposes for the period June 6 to June 22, 1958, subject to certain conditions as set forth in writing to the Arts Festival Committee.

Firth Road, W. R. - Widening & Construction Of:

The Commission voted to notify the Public Improvement Commission that it has no objection to the widening and construction of Firth Road, West Roxbury at the southeasterly corner of Florence Street, said work to be done by the Public Improvement Commission.

Tobin Memorial Gymnasium

The Commission considered several requests for use of the Tobin Memorial Gymnasium for Color Guard Competition and similar activities by public and private organizations, and it was

VOTED: That permission will not be granted for the use of the gymnasium located in the Tobin Memorial Building for any events other than regular gymnasium classes under the direction of the Recreation Division of this department or a program actually identified with recreation play.

Contracts:

1/14/58

The Commission was informed that the following contracts were awarded since the previous meeting:

Use of Vacant Land on Cummins Highway for Dumping Purposes: Awarded to William J. Barry Company, 453 Cummins Highway, Mattapan. Rate, \$75 per month.

Reconstructing Lafayette Mall, Boston Common, Boston, Mass. Contractor, C. C. Temple Construction Co., 729 Boylston Street, Boston. \$137,509.25

Furnishing and Erecting Christmas Trees at Various Locations in the City of Boston, Mass. Contractor, Fred Ralston & Co., 47 Braintree Street, Allston, Massachusetts. \$ 4,285.00

Cleaning Catch Basins in Park System. Contractor, William J. Banfield, 50 Terminal Street, Charlestown. \$ 4,000.00

Extension of Time on Contracts:

Furnishing and Erecting Chain Barrier Fence at the Public Garden, Boston, Mass. Contractor, P. J. Dinn & Co., 60 Freeport Street, Dorchester, Massachusetts. Time extended to May 15, 1958.

Construction of Angell Memorial Plaza, Post Office Square, Boston, Mass. Contractor: Martin F. Kelly Co., Inc., 75 Stedman Street, Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts. Time extended to May 15, 1958.

Furnishing and Erecting Ornamental Park Benches at the Public Garden, Boston, Massachusetts. Contractor: F. C. Dolan & Sons, Inc., 18 Aldworth Street, Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts. Time extended to May 15, 1958.

Concessions Awarded:

Malloch's Wharf, Dorchester. Leased to Vernon L. Hart and Robert B. Egan, d/b/a Bay State Boat Company, for a period of one year or less pending transfer of the land to the Real Property Division, but in no case later than October 31, 1958. Rental, \$15 per month.

Castle Island Refreshment Privilege: Awarded to Mrs. Mary M. Sullivan of 9 Highland Street, Roxbury, for a five-year period beginning January 1, 1958 at a rental fee of \$1000 per year.

Franklin Park Refectory Building and Two Locations in Franklin Park (Refreshment Privilege). One lease for the refreshment privilege in the Refectory Building and at the 9th tee on the golf course, and at the Bear Dens so-called, for a rental of \$3500 per year, for a five-year term beginning December 1, 1957. Another lease for the refreshment privilege in the booths at the Lion House and Elk Range, in Franklin Park, for a rental of \$1500 per year, for a five-year term beginning December 1, 1957. Both awarded to John P. Burke of 22 Myrtle Street, Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts.

Refreshment Privilege in George Wright Golf Clubhouse: Awarded to John E. Crowley of 149 Beaver Street, Hyde Park, for a term of three years beginning April 1, 1958 at rental of \$401 per year.

Refreshment Booth at East Boston Stadium and Athletic Center: Awarded to Francis Consilvio of 26 St. Andrew Road, East Boston, for a period of five years beginning January 1, 1958 at rental of \$250 per year.

Men's Massage Room, L Street Bath House: Lease renewed to William H. Baldwin of 139 N Street, South Boston, for room in L Street Bath House for Men's Massage Business, for a period of three years beginning January 1, 1958 at rental of \$100 per year.

Swan Boats and Row Boats Concession on Public Garden: License amended at request of concessionaire Paul G. Paget, so as to increase rental from \$800 per year to \$1000 per year during remaining years of present agreement, which runs to December 31, 1960.

Concessions (Cont.)

1/14/58

Coin Lock Concession in Convenience Stations on Boston Common. Renewed for another term of one year, to October 31, 1958, to American Coin Lock Co., Inc. Increase in payment by the City to American Coin Lock Co., Inc. from \$4500 to \$5000.

Building Permits

The following building permits, referred to the Parks and Recreation Department by the Building Department, were approved by the Commissioner:

366 Commonwealth Avenue - Change occupancy from six stores and nineteen apartments to six stores and twenty-three apartments. Request of Max Yorks.

17 Gloucester Street - Repair fire damage. Request of American Red Cross, Boston Metropolitan Chapter.

Matters of Information

The following matters were called to the attention of the Commissioners for their information. No action required at this time.

Lafayette Mall, Boston Common: The City Council and the Mayor, on December 30 and 31 respectively, approved the transfer of \$2976.86 from the income of the George F. Parkman Fund to the appropriation, "Improvement of Boston Common". This is the amount earned in 1957 in excess of \$175,000 estimated earlier in the year and appropriated to the fund for improvement of the Common.

Construction work on the Lafayette Mall project will start in the early spring of 1958. Request has been made on the Mayor, under date of January 3, 1958, that he ask the City Council for approval of an appropriation of \$175,000 for this same purpose from the income of the Parkman Fund for 1958.

Boston Common Garage: The Secretary informed the Commission that two more groups have expressed interest in constructing the garage under Boston Common

Franklin Park Zoo: The Secretary informed the Commissioners that papers have been executed by the Parks and Recreation Commission of the City of Boston and the members of the Metropolitan District Commission of the Commonwealth, transferring care and custody of the Franklin Park Zoo to the Metropolitan District Commission as of 12.01 A. M., January 1, 1958. This was done in accordance with vote of Parks and Recreation Commission in special meeting on December 31, 1957.

Hanson Street, South End: Under date of June 13, 1957 the Parks and Recreation Commission voted to purchase Lots 5911 and 5912 at 14-16 Hanson Street, Boston, for playground purposes. The sum of \$2200 has been paid for the land and the deed was recorded in the Registry of Deeds for Suffolk County.

Northeastern University--

Acquisition of Park Land: Dr. Carl S. Ell, President of Northeastern University, headed a delegation to the Legislature on January 8, 1958 for the purpose of asking approval of a legislative bill that would allow the City to sell park land in the Fens, adjacent to the Museum of Fine Arts, to Northeastern University as the site of a home for the University president.

Parking of Automobiles on Boston Common Ball Field: An opinion given by the Corporation Counsel for the City of Boston was read to the Commission, regarding the proposed use of the ball field on Boston Common for parking of automobiles during the winter season. The opinion stated in substance that "Land appropriated to one public use cannot be diverted to another inconsistent

1/14/58

public use without plain and explicit legislation to that end". Lacking legislation to empower the Commission to license a person to park a motor vehicle on the ball field in question, it necessarily follows that the Commission has no power to charge for parking there.

Legislative Bills Relating to Parks & Recreation Department:

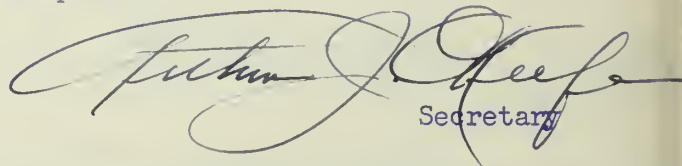
The Secretary acquainted the Commissioners with the purpose of certain legislative bills, and gave them copies of the bills, filed with the 1958 session of the Legislature which involve this department.

The Secretary also explained the purpose of a Parkland Protection Bill-- House No. 2320 - which would require that petitions to the Legislature for division of parklands for other than park purposes must be passed by a two-third vote of the local government rather than a simple majority. The purpose of the proposed bill is to insure against hasty action on the part of local government in disposing of park lands.

Motel on Jamaicaway: Chief Engineer Daniel J. Byrne reported that a private group of investors is interested in erecting a motel and restaurant at Jamaicaway and Perkins Street, on land bordering a parkway. No action was taken at this meeting.

Cemetery Laws Relating to Burial Fees: Section 18A, Chapter 117, General Laws. A change in the laws relating to payment of funeral and burial expenses of certain poor and indigent persons was read. Principal change from the present law is that the present charge of \$60 for a grave and interment will upon adoption of an order filed with the City Council, be reduced to \$50 and that a refund of \$10 will be made to the Overseers of the Public Welfare on each burial since January 1, 1957 to the effective date of the City Council order granting the reduction.

The meeting was adjourned at 1.20 p. m.


Secretary

February 6, 1958

A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at the office of the Commission, 33 Beacon Street, today, at 10:30 a. m.

Present: Commissioner Frank R. Kelley and Associate Commissioners Daniel G. O'Connor, Thomas J. Carty, O. Phillip Snowden, and Harry J. Blake.

Voted to dispense with reading of minutes of previous meeting.

Building Permits

The following application was referred to Parks and Recreation Department by the Building Department for approval:

151 Commonwealth Avenue and 303 Dartmouth Street - Request of Commonwealth School, Inc. for conversion of these two buildings into one building, with gymnasium and dining quarters to be erected in rear courtyard of No. 151 Commonwealth Avenue.

Application was approved, following opinion from Law Department that the alterations to the buildings conformed to the City's building ordinances.

Concessions

2/6/58

The members of the Commission were informed that the following concessions in this department were renewed, with approval of His Honor the Mayor:

1. Golf Professional's Privilege and Sports Shop Concession at George Wright Golf Course and Clubhouse, to William Taylor for three years at \$50 per year.
2. Golf Professional's Privilege and Sports Shop Concession at Franklin Park Golf Course and golf building, to Charles Malloy for three years at \$25 per year.

Arts Festival

The Secretary reported that since the meeting of the Commission on January 14, only one letter has been received protesting the vote of the Commission allowing the Arts Festival to be held on the Public Garden in 1958. The Secretary also read a letter from Nelson Aldrich, dated January 20, 1958, in response to the Commissioner's letter containing vote of the Board taken in the meeting of January 14, and also an editorial from the Back Bay Ledger on the same subject.

Lafayette Mall

The Commission was informed that construction work will start on the beautification of Lafayette Mall shortly after March 1, and that letters have been sent to the following, requesting that they remove their structures or equipment from the Mall before March 1: U. S. Navy Headquarters and Marine Recruiting Headquarters (recruiting booths); John Donnelly & Sons (advertising signs); New England Telephone & Telegraph Co. (public telephone pay stations); Milton E. Lord, Director of Public Library (Bookmobile); Leo Elfman (Newspaper storage boxes); Commissioner George Hyland (Public Works Department sand boxes).

Also, that a letter has been sent to His Honor the Mayor asking that he request the Metropolitan Transit Authority to clean all the subway kiosks prior to or during the construction period.

A communication was also read, from Edward Dana, General Manager of the MTA, protesting the removal of the subway kiosk in the vicinity of Boylston and Tremont Streets.

Legislative Bills

The Commission was informed of the following legislative bills which are of interest to the Parks and Recreation Department:

1. House Bill #2036: An Act transferring to the Metropolitan District Commission the care, control and maintenance of the Cabot Street Bath House in the City of Boston.

The bill was filed by Representative Pope and is intended to have Cabot Street Bath House maintained by the MDC as a memorial to former Representative William A. Glynn of Boston.

Mr. Kerr, Chief Legal Assistant in the Law Department, will oppose passage of this bill, as the representative of the City and the Parks and Recreation Department.

2. Senate Bill #146: Regarding Shirley Eustis Mansion.

The Secretary reported that Senate Bill #559 had been substituted for Senate Bill #146. Mr. Kerr stated that under the new bill the City is authorized to give a $3\frac{1}{2}$ -acre tract of land for the relocation of the Shirley Eustis house provided that funds are provided by the Commonwealth and authorized by a state agency that would be in charge of such a project. The bill does not necessarily refer to the Park Department's land. Any tract of land in the City could be used. The bill requires the approval of the commission or department involved and a two-thirds vote of the City Council and approval of the Mayor.

Christmas Festival

2/6/58

The Secretary read excerpts from an editorial which appeared in the PILOT of January 18, 1958, regarding the opposition of certain groups in the City to the use of public parks in the religious observance of Christmas.

Commissioner Snowden requested permission to talk to members of these groups in an effort to create better understanding of the purpose of the Christmas Festival and, if possible, to eliminate their objections to the use of public land for religious symbols of Christmas. Other members of the Commission readily approved Commissioner Snowden's request.

Swimming Meet

The Commission was informed that the Bath Division of this department in conjunction with the American Red Cross will promote a swimming meet open to all amateurs in New England, on Saturday, February 15, at Curtis Hall Pool.

Yearly Report to Administrative Services Department

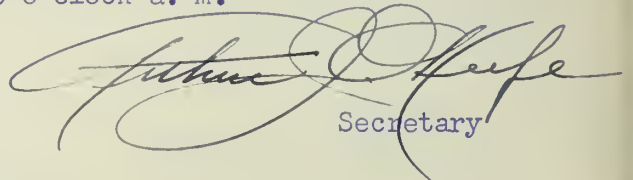
The Commission was informed that Director of Administrative Services William Arthur Reilly has requested that, each year starting in January of 1958 all departments submit a brief report of major accomplishments of the department during the year just passed and objectives for the year ahead.

Each Commissioner was given a copy of the Parks and Recreation Department report listing accomplishments for the year 1957 and objectives for 1958, as submitted to Director Reilly.

Absence of Commissioner from City

Upon recommendation of Commissioner Kelley and with the approval of His Honor the Mayor, Arthur J. O'Keefe, Executive Secretary, is to be in charge of administration in the department during the absence of Commissioner Kelley on annual vacation, February 24 through March 14, 1958.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 o'clock a. m.


Secretary

March 27, 1958

A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at this office, 33 Beacon Street, Boston, today, at 11:00 o'clock a. m., Commissioner Kelley presiding.

Present: Commissioner Frank R. Kelley and Associate Commissioners Daniel G. O'Connor, Thomas J. Carty, O. Phillip Snowden and Harry J. Blake.

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted without reading.

Castle Island & Garvey Playground

Commissioner Kelley reported on the subject matter of his meeting with Commissioner Greenough of the Metropolitan District Commission. The meeting was held for the purpose of discussing the proposed taking by the Metropolitan District Commission of Castle Island, the roadway to Castle Island, and the Aquarium grounds in South Boston.

Also discussed during this meeting were four bills filed in the House of Representatives by Representative Kenneally of Ward 16, all pertaining to Garvey Playground. These bills, numbered 308, 1000, 1369 and 1372, will all be withdrawn except No. 1369 which is entitled, "An Act Authorizing the Metropolitan District Commission to Transfer the Old Colony Police Station to Garvey Playground Site at the Neponset Circle". The Metropolitan District Commission is now planning to rebuild and improve Garvey Playground following completion of road building operations which required part of the playground area.

It was the opinion of the Commission that the proposed plans of the Metropolitan District Commission relating to Castle Island and the Aquarium grounds, and the provisions of House Bill No. 1369, are all in the best interests of the City. No recommendations, however, were made at this meeting.

Cleveland Circle Playground

The Commission was informed of the provisions of two bills filed in the Legislature - House Bill #555 and Senate Bill #460. The House bill, filed by Representative Weinberg, calls for construction of a swimming pool by the Metropolitan District Commission on the Cleveland Circle Playground. The Senate Bill, filed by Representative Caples, calls for acquisition of this playground by the Metropolitan District Commission.

Mr. Kerr, the Chief Legal Assistant in the Law Department, has stated that the legislative committee will report "leave to withdraw" on these bills because the Legislature is in a frame of mind to refuse to transfer or sell any park land anywhere in the Commonwealth.

Irving Adams Park, Roslindale

The Commission voted unanimously to grant the request of the Roslindale World War Memorial Association to erect a memorial monument on Irving Adams Park, Roslindale, in honor of the veterans of World War I, subject to the approval of the Boston Art Commission.

Lafayette Mall, Boston Common

Commissioner Kelley and Chief Engineer Byrne discussed with the Commission the latest developments in the proposed improvement of Lafayette Mall on Boston Common.

The Secretary then reported that the total appropriation from the Parkman Fund for 1957, for this work, was \$177,965.86, and the total encumbrance to date for architects and contractor amounts to \$165,940. The balance remaining will be used for contingencies that may arise. It will be added to the appropriation which will be received this year from the Parkman Fund, estimated at \$175,000.

A letter was then read from Haven Parker regarding the desire of the USG, which maintains the Buddies Club on the Common, to cooperate in plans for beautifying the Mall. The letter, apparently, was written as the result of

3/27/58

editorials which have appeared in the Boston Herald and the Boston Traveler urging the removal of the Buddies Club from the Common.

The Commission took no action on these matters at today's meeting but agreed to meet again on April 3, at which time the latest plans for this development will be presented to them.

Forsyth Way & Hemenway Street (Northeastern University)

The Commission was informed that the Legislature, on February 20, refused to grant authority to the City to sell a parcel of park land on Forsyth Way and Hemenway Street to Northeastern University, by a vote of 51 to 21.

A new bill has been introduced into the Senate this week relating to this same matter and action on it will be taken at an early date.

Lasell Street--Addington Road, W. Roxbury

The Commission was informed that a request has been sent to His Honor the Mayor that arrangements be made through the City Council to transfer this parcel of property containing 3937 square feet, at Lasell Street and Addington Road, West Roxbury, from the Real Property Department to the Parks and Recreation Department for development as a small park.

Greenwich and Fenton Streets, Dorchester

The Commission voted to request His Honor the Mayor to arrange through the City Council for the transfer of approximately 14,000 square feet of land at 38-40 Fenton Street and 43-49 Greenwich Street, from the Real Property Division to the Parks and Recreation Department for development as a small tots' play area, with the understanding that the development must await an appropriation of funds for the purpose.

Boston Common Garage

The attention of the Commission was called to a newspaper report of the latest attempt to prevent the construction of the proposed underground garage at Boston Common. This latest effort concerned legislation introduced by Rep. James C. Bayley, of Ward 5, which was rejected by the House.

Boston Arts Festival

The attention of the Commission was called to a communication of March 13, from Mr. Nelson W. Aldrich, General Chairman of the Boston Arts Festival, regarding the organization of a major fund-raising campaign for the Festival.

Cummings Estate--U.S. Government

The Commission was informed that information has come to this department through Mr. Wendler, Director of School Gardens on the Cummings Estate, that the United States Government apparently has already entered upon certain sections of the Cummings Estate, in the vicinity of the missile site, on which they plan to erect homes for personnel employed there. No official notice of this action has been received at the Parks and Recreation Department office, but the Law Department reports that they are aware that condemnation proceedings have been instituted in the United States District Court for the taking of this land.

The Commission voted to request the Corporation Counsel to take whatever legal measures may be necessary to insure that any land taken by the United States Government on the Cummings Estate, for defense purposes, be so protected in the deed or other instrument of conveyance that it will revert to the City of Boston at any time in the future that the government has no further use for it for defense purposes.

The Commission voted unanimously to name the new Little League inclosed stadium on Smith Playground, Brighton, in honor of the late Joseph Doucette who devoted much time and effort to youth activities and civic interests in the Brighton area.

Post Office Square

The Commission was informed that the newly developed park area in Post Office Square will take place on Wednesday, May 28, at 11 a. m. The program is being arranged by the MSPCA.

Contracts

The attention of the Commission was called to the following advertised contracts which have been awarded since the last Commission meeting. All were awarded to the low bidder:

Replacing Defective Concrete Blocks in Walks in the Park System, Boston, Mass. Awarded to Martin F. Kelly Co., Inc., 75 Stedman Street, Jamaica Plain, the lowest of seven bidders, for an approximate amount of \$ 8,000.00

Furnishing and Erecting Portable Steel Bleachers at William F. Smith Playground, Brighton, Mass. Awarded to Marr Scaffolding Co., 25 D Street, South Boston, the lowest of four bidders, for an approximate amount of \$ 2,697.14

Constructing a Play Area at Hanson Street, Boston, Mass. Awarded to Faletra Bros., Inc., 115 Providence Street, Hyde Park, for an approximate amount of \$14,207.50

Constructing a Play Area at Quincy and Stanley Streets, Dorchester, Mass. Awarded to DeVirgilio General Contractors, 25 Brookdale Avenue, Dedham, Mass., the lowest of ten bidders, for an approximate amount of \$ 8,959.75.

Building Permit

The following building permit, referred to this department by the Building Department, was approved by the Commissioner:

No. 30 Fairfield Street, Ward 5. Change occupancy from dwelling to school. Alter interior of existing building to provide eight classrooms, one science laboratory, four offices, and other rooms for school purposes.

Budget Notes

The Commission was informed that as of the present time, the Park Division budget appropriation as recommended by the Mayor is \$3,639,132. Amount requested, \$4,037,054.05. The Cemetery Division budget appropriation allowed by the Mayor is \$380,765. Requested, \$431,706.

The budget is still under study by the City Council and final figures are not yet available.

The meeting was adjourned at


Secretary

April 3, 1958.

A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at this office, 33 Beacon Street, Boston, today, at 11 O'clock a. m.

Present: Commissioner Frank R. Kelley and Associate Commissioners Daniel C. O'Connor, Thomas J. Carty, and O. Phillip Snowden. Absent, Associate Commissioner Harry J. Blake.

Voted to dispense with reading of minutes of previous meeting.

Lafayette Mall, Boston Common

Mr. Sidney Shurcliff, architect for the improvements on Lafayette Mall, and members of the Boston Art Commission were present at this meeting to discuss with the Commission the latest plans for the development of the Mall. Also present were two sculptors who presented small-scale models of sculptural ornamentation to be included in the new work, if approved.

The Art Commission and the Parks and Recreation Commission unanimously approved the architects' plans and the sculptors' designs.

The Commission then discussed the proposal of the Metropolitan Transit Authority Trustees to remove one subway kiosk located on Lafayette Mall about opposite Mason Street and to sand-blast the remaining kiosks on the Mall.

It was the opinion of the Commissioners that all kiosks should be removed for the reason that those remaining will obstruct the view of the displays in the finished development and that, even though they are cleaned now, they will soon become unsightly again from an accumulation of dirt and thus detract from the beauty of the Mall. It seems unwise to the Commissioners to spend \$350,000 in reconstructing and beautifying the Mall and then allow these kiosks to remain, eventually becoming unsightly objects in what will be one of the finest park developments in the history of the city.

It was therefore voted that His Honor the Mayor be requested to present to the MTA Trustees the views of the Parks and Recreation Commission and to request the Trustees to explore the possibility of removing all kiosks on the Mall and replacing them with subway entrances similar to the one opposite the Crawford-Hollidge building and those just outside the South Station.

Building Permit

The following request for a building permit was referred by the Building Department to the Parks and Recreation Department for approval:

386-388 Commonwealth Avenue, Ward 5. The petitioner plans to install a macademized open-air parking lot for use by the Hotel Somerset which is adjacent to said land. The parking lot will accommodate eighteen (18) automobiles and no commercial vehicles. There will be a parking lot attendant in constant supervision while the parking lot is open. The parking lot will be used by the personnel who work at the Hotel Somerset to whom no fee will be charged and to the patrons of the Hotel Somerset who will be charged a parking fee. The petitioner was formerly known as Hotel Puritan, Inc., but when it ceased operating the Hotel Puritan it changed its name to Puritan, Inc.

Voted, that the matter be referred to the Corporation Counsel for an opinion as to the legality of allowing such a parking area to be located on the Park System.

Contracts

Since the last meeting of the Commission the following advertised contract was awarded to the lowest of four bidders:

Repairs to Bituminous Pavement at Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, Mass.
Awarded to S. J. Tomasello Corporation, 25 Huntington Avenue, Boston,
for the approximate sum of \$4,577.50

Contracts (Cont.)

4/3/58

Invitation proposals were requested of three firms for "Spraying of Trees on Parks, Playgrounds and on City Streets in the City of Boston". Two of the three firms submitted the same low bid and in order to expedite the work, the contract was divided between them as follows:

Fred Ralston & Co., 47 Braintree Street, Allston, Mass.....\$5,500.00
Superior Tree Service, Inc., 15 Littlejohn St., Arlington,
Massachusetts 5,500.00

Forsyth Way & Hemenway Street - Northeastern University

The attention of the Commission was called to the action of the Massachusetts Senate which, on April 1, passed and sent to the House a bill authorizing the City of Boston to sell one acre of land to Northeastern University. The land is situated at Forsyth Way and Hemenway Street.

MDC Assessments to City of Boston

The attention of the Commission was called to action taken by the City Council objecting to the proportion of the Metropolitan District Commission expenses assessed against the City of Boston.

Reports to Commissioners

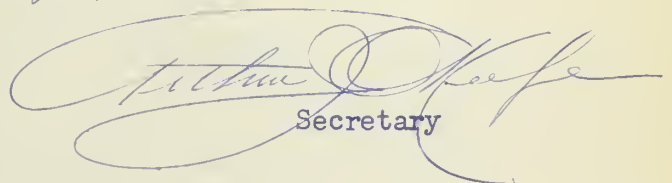
Each Commissioner was presented with a report, originally prepared for the Administrative Services Department, showing locations of land and buildings under custody of the Parks and Recreation Department not in active use as of January 1, 1958.

Another report was presented to each Commissioner showing a comparison of golf permit sales and cash receipts for the years 1956 and 1957, and a comparison of cash receipts in all bath houses, 1957 being the first year that these facilities were operated at increased rates.

Budget Notes

The Commission was informed that, according to this morning's newspapers, the Park Department budget, Park Division, was reduced \$99,500 below that recommended by the Mayor, and the Cemetery Division budget was reduced \$19,000 below the Mayor's recommendation.

The meeting was adjourned at 12⁵⁵ P.M.


Secretary

May 21, 1958

A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at this office, 33 Beacon Street, Boston, today, at 10:45 a. m.

Present: Chairman Frank R. Kelley and Associate Commissioners Thomas J. Carty, Daniel G. O'Connor and O. Phillip Snowden, and Harry J. Blake.

Voted to dispense with reading of minutes of previous meeting.

The attention of the Commissioners was called to a notice received from the City Clerk stating that His Honor the Mayor had reappointed Mr. Harry J. Blake, 21 Brimmer Street, Boston, as an Associate Commissioner of Parks and Recreation for the term beginning May 1, 1958 and ending May 1, 1962.

Northeastern University--Purchase of Park Land

5/21/58

The attention of the Commission was called to the fact that under date of April 11, 1958, His Excellency the Governor approved Chapter 253 of the Acts of 1958, entitled "An Act Authorizing the City of Boston to Sell and Convey to Northeastern University Certain Park Land in the Fenway District of said City".

The proposed sale of this park land has been before the Commission in several previous meetings for consideration, but no action was taken. The land has been appraised at \$126,000.

The Commission voted that a conveyance plan of the land be obtained from Mr. James Haley, Chief Engineer of the Improvement Commission of the Public Work Department, and that, when such plan is available, the matter of the sale of the land to Northeastern University be brought before the Commission for action.

Lafayette Mall

The Commission was informed that on May 12 and May 13 the City Council and the Mayor approved an appropriation of \$175,000 for the improvement of Boston Common, this sum being the estimated earnings of the Parkman Fund for 1958. The total amount now appropriated for Lafayette Mall Improvements is \$350,000. Of this sum, approximately \$165,000 has been encumbered for contracts already awarded.

Commissioner Kelley reported that he had attended a meeting with Trustees of the Metropolitan Transit Authority and that the Trustees are very receptive to improvements being made on Boston Common but that they are not in favor of the removal of the present subway kiosks on Lafayette Mall at this time, preferring to wait until such time as plans of their own for the enlargement of Park Street subway station can be undertaken. The Trustees believe that enlargement of this subway station will be required within a few years because of an expected increase in subway travel when the Scollay Square Civic Center and the Prudential Development in the Back Bay are completed.

Chief Engineer Byrne stated that he believes subway transportation will not be appreciably increased by the impact of the Scollay Square and Back Bay developments and that there is little need of an enlarged surface and subway area at the Park Street Station.

The Commissioners were of the opinion that the MTA improvements at Park Street subway may be long delayed and that therefore our plans for the beautification of Lafayette Mall must proceed, even though the existing kiosks can not be removed at this time.

Play Area - Hyde Park Ave. & E. Glenwood Ave., H. P.

The Commissioners were informed that a draft has been drawn in the amount of \$2800 for the purchase of four lots of land at the above location, containing 20,555 square feet. The purchase was made from the Baid Realty Corporation, 176 Newbury Street, Boston.

Under date of October 7, 1957 the Mayor and the Council approved an appropriation of \$25,000 for clearing and developing this area.

Land at Greenwich & Fenton Streets, Dorchester

Notice was received from the Real Property Department that at a regular meeting of that Board held on Thursday, May 1, 1958, it was unanimously voted to transfer the care and custody of land at the above-named location to the Parks and Recreation Department. The land contains approximately 14,000 square feet.

This action was taken following a vote of the Parks and Recreation Commission in meeting of March 27, 1958, to acquire the land for development as a children's play area.

Underground Garage - Boston Common

5/2/58

The Commissioners were informed of the latest developments in legislation relating to construction of the long-proposed garage under Boston Common, as follows:

Under date of May 6, 1958 Governor Furcolo called for the creation of a Massachusetts Parking Authority to undertake construction of the Boston Common Underground Garage, the Authority to finance the construction of this facility by the sale of revenue bonds.

Following the issuance of this statement by the Governor, His Honor the Mayor suggested that there be adopted three amendments to the original proposal made by the Governor, which would make the plan acceptable to the City of Boston. These amendments are:

1. The City would have at least one representative on the three-man Massachusetts Parking Authority.
2. Definite language to guarantee the restoration of historic Boston Common upon completion of the garage would be written into the bill.
3. Tax-exempt construction bonds would finance the project.

Mr. William H. Kerr, Chief Legal Assistant in the Law Department, then said that some changes are being made in the original proposal of the Governor. He said that although official announcement has not yet been made, the bill now being presented to the legislature calls for an authority of three members, two to be appointed by the Governor, one of whom will probably be the chairman of the Turnpike Authority, and the third member to be the Chairman of the Parks and Recreation Commission ex-officio.

Cummings Estate, Woburn - U. S. Army

The Commission considered a written request, dated May 15, 1958, from the U. S. Army Engineer Division, New England Corps of Engineers, asking for a Construction Right-of-Entry Permit to allow urgent construction work to proceed on additional land of the Mary P. C. Cummings Estate, Woburn, during the period of time that is required for the Government to process a Declaration of Taking through the Department of Justice.

The additional land required by the Government is to be used to extend the existing Leaching Field at the Government's NIKE Site. The value of the fee and easements sought by the Government at this time is in the amount of \$4,000. The area is shown on the Government's Real Estate Plan entitled "Boston Defense Area, NIKE Battery 84, NED-PA-1013 dated March, 1954".

Upon referring the matter to the City Law Department, the Commission was informed that no City official is authorized to sign a Right-of-Entry Permit, such as the Government desires.

The Commission voted, therefore, that the Right-of-Entry Permit form be returned to the sender, unsigned, with the plan of the desired area.

West End Redevelopment Project
Wall Street Play Area

The Commission was informed that the Boston Redevelopment Authority had taken, under date of April 9, 1958, the play facility at 26-28 Wall Street, West End, one of the Parks & Recreation Department's play areas, and that the Commissioner had addressed a communication to the Law Department asking that the necessary action be taken to secure reimbursement for the property.

5/21/58

The Commission was informed that notice was received from the Law Department stating that Chapter 284 of the Acts of 1958 was approved on April 22, 1958, said Act being entitled, "An Act Relative to the Lease and Sale of Certain Land in the Dorchester District of the City of Boston Belonging to said City and now Under the Care and Custody of its Parks and Recreation Commission".

This legislation pertains to the proposed sale of land on Victory Road to Rice Post No. 28, American Veterans of World War II and Korea, Inc., to be used as a recreation area and headquarters for said post.

Voted, that a conveyance plan of said land be obtained from Mr. James Haley, Chief Engineer of the Improvement Commission of the Public Works Department, and that, when such plan is available, the matter of the sale of the land be brought before the Commission for action.

Ross Estate, Forest Hills

In meeting of January 17, 1957, the Commission considered the possibility of selling the property known as the Ross Estate, located on Forest Hills Street, Jamaica Plain, which was bequeathed to the City in 1943 and has been in the care and custody of the Parks and Recreation Department since that time. The Law Department was requested for an opinion on the City's right to sell or transfer the property under the terms of the bequest.

At today's meeting the Commission was informed that the Legislature had admitted Senate Bill No. 676, filed by Senator James W. Hennigan, Jr., entitled "An Act Authorizing the City of Boston to Sell Certain Park Lands on Forest Hills Street in the West Roxbury District of Said City", and that the bill is now on the Governor's desk awaiting signature.

It was decided, before taking any action on the sale, that conveyance plans of the property be obtained from James Haley, Chief Engineer of the Improvement Commission of the Public Works Department, and that the matter of the sale be considered when such plans are available.

Contracts

The Commission was informed that the following contracts have been awarded:

Publicly Advertised Contracts Awarded to Low Bidders:

1. Furnishing and Planting Trees on Streets and Parkways in Boston, Mass. Awarded to Blueview Nurseries, 32 Gaston Street, Roxbury, Mass. Amount....\$29,000.00
2. Removal of Dead or Diseased Trees in the City of Boston, Mass. Awarded to Fred Ralston & Co., Inc., 47 Braintree Street, Allston, Mass. Amount....\$21,450.00
3. Grading, Surfacing and Improvements at Jefferson Playground, Roxbury, Mass. Awarded to DeVirgilio General Contracting, 25 Brookside Avenue, Dedham, Mass. Amount....\$24,698.00
4. Invitation Bids Requested. Contract awarded to low bidders, both of whom bid the same amount: Trimming of Trees in All Sections of the City of Boston. Awarded to:

Fred Ralston & Co., Inc., 47 Braintree St., Allston, Mass. \$10,000.
Superior Tree Service, Inc., 15 Littlejohn Street, Arlington, Massachusetts., \$10,000.

5/21/58

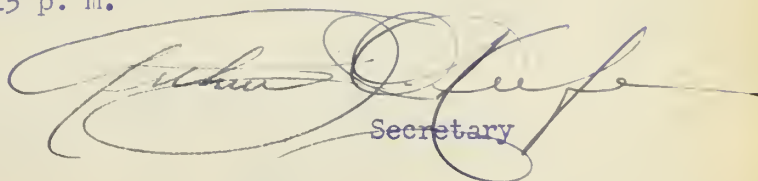
Building Permits Referred to this department by Building Department.
All were approved:

- 386-388 Commonwealth Avenue - Install a macademized open-air parking lot for use by Hotel Somerset, to accommodate 15 automobiles and no commercial vehicles. Request of Hotel Somerset.
- 135 Commonwealth Avenue - Change occupancy from school to school and dormitories and with cooking privileges on two floors. Request of Ruth and John Breining.
- 389 Commonwealth Avenue - Renovate two rooms in basement for basement apartment. Request of Grand Lodge Knights of Phthias Trust.
- 273 Commonwealth Avenue - Erect connecting balconys from 2nd, 3rd, & 4th floors and extend to 17 Gloucester Street building.
- 151 Commonwealth Avenue - Install one sign to be painted on the existing glass transom and to read "Commonwealth School". Request of Commonwealth School, Inc.
- 397-399 Commonwealth Avenue - Change of occupancy. To be used for business and professional offices. Request of Hearthstone Insurance Company of Massachusetts
- 536-538 Beacon Street - Marquee at front of the Hotel Fensgate. Request of Fensgate Realty Trust.
- Boston Public Garden - Request for temporary stage on site of Boston Art Festival. Request of Festival Committee.
- Hotel Kenmore - Request to set up patio sidewalk cafe on the left hand side of hotel, between sidewalk and hotel proper. No structural changes.

Matters of Information

1. Summer Playground Program, 1958. Report of unified summer playground program submitted by the committee appointed by Commissioner Kelley: The total number of seasonal personnel for the summer of 1958 will approximate 500. Of this number 280 are play leaders and supervisors on playgrounds and school yards; 220 are laborers, matrons, lifeguards, boating managers, etc., who will be assigned to beaches, baths, playgrounds, etc.
2. Assessment of MDC Costs: Under date of March 31 the City Council approved a resolution calling on the Legislature to refrain from approving any extension of Metropolitan District Commission activities until the present method of assessing costs is changed.
3. Parking in area of Fenway Park and Kenmore Square: Secretary read notice from Commissioner William Arthur Reilly, dated April 25, regarding a conference concerning parking in the area of Fenway Park and Kenmore Square.
4. Dedication of Stadium: The new inclosed Little League Stadium in Brighton, named in honor of Joseph Doucette, was dedicated on Saturday, May 3. This stadium is located within the confines of Smith Field, Brighton.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:15 p. m.


Secretary

July 15, 1958

A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at this office, 33 Beacon Street, Boston, today at 10:45 A. M.

Present: Commissioner Frank R. Kelley and Associate Commissioners Daniel G. O'Connor, Thomas J. Carty, O. Phillip Snowden, and Harry J. Blake; also Daniel J. Byrne, Jr., Chief Engineer of the department, and Arthur J. O'Keefe, Secretary to the Commission, and William H. Kerr, Chief Legal Assistant in the Law Department, and James W. Haley, Chief Engineer of the Public Improvement Commission of the City.

Voted: To dispense with reading of minutes of previous meeting.

Northeastern University--Purchase of Park Land

The Commission again considered the request of Northeastern University for purchase of park land at Hemmenway Street and Forsyth Way.

Mr. Haley, Chief Engineer of the Public Improvement Commission, presented to the Commission a plan of the actual area of this plot of land which shows that it contains 43,918 square feet instead of 42,169 square feet as reported on January 30, 1957 by Mr. Earl R. Barnard, the appraiser retained by the City Law Department.

The appraiser, Mr. Barnard, had estimated the value of the land at \$3.00 per square foot, which the Commission accepted as the fair market value per square foot for the land.

The Commission agreed that if the land is offered for sale that there should be a flat price of \$132,000 set upon it for an area of approximately 43,918 square feet as shown on the Public Improvement Commission's plan, rather than \$126,000 which had been considered at a previous meeting and which was based on the small area reported by the appraiser.

It was therefore unanimously

VOTED: That it be and hereby is recommended to His Honor the Mayor and the City Council that the City of Boston sell to Northeastern University as authorized in Chapter 253 of the Acts of 1958, that part of the parcel of land situated at the corner of Hemenway Street and Forsyth Way containing 43,918 square feet, for the sum of \$132,000, said land being shown on plan entitled "City of Boston, Hemenway Street, Forsyth Way, Roxbury", dated July 7, 1958 and signed by James W. Haley, Chief Engineer Survey Division, Public Works Department, containing 43,918 square feet.

Ross Estate, Forest Hills Street, W. Roxbury

The attention of the Commission was called to Chapter 343 of the Acts of 1958, approved by the Governor on May 26, 1958, reading as follows: "An Act Authorizing the City of Boston to Sell Certain Park Lands on Forest Hills Street in the West Roxbury District of Said City".

During the discussion which followed, it was brought out that for several years the Street Commissioners of the City have had in their files a project for the construction of an extension to Sigourney Street which would run through part of the Ross Estate property. This proposed street extension is shown on plan entitled, "City of Boston, Forest Hills Street, West Roxbury", dated November 17, 1943 and signed "William J. Sullivan, Chief Engineer, Street Laying-Out Department".

Voted: To defer action on the proposed sale of this property until information can be obtained from the Public Improvement Commission as to any plans they may have for the continuation of Sigourney Street through the Ross Estate property in the foreseeable future.

The attention of the Commission was called to Chapter 284 of the Acts of 1958 which was approved by the Governor on April 22, 1958, entitled "An Act Relative to the Lease and Sale of Certain Land in the Dorchester District of the City of Boston Belonging to said City and Now Under the Care and Custody of its Parks and Recreation Commissioner".

Voted: That no action be taken toward the proposed sale of this land until plans of the area have been received from the Public Improvement Commission.

Cummings Estate, Woburn

Chief Engineer Byrne reported that on a recent visit to the Cummings Estate Property in Woburn he noticed that the Army is using land areas on the Cummings Estate which were taken by the Federal Government under condemnation proceedings, none of which were actually approved by the Parks and Recreation Commission. Mr. Byrne stated, however, that he thought the work being done on the land was adding to the value of the property.

Lafayette Mall

Chief Engineer Byrne reported that we are maintaining our time schedule on construction work at Lafayette Mall, Boston Common.

Commonwealth Avenue Mall

A report on work recently done on Commonwealth Avenue Mall stated that the center walk from Arlington Street to Massachusetts Avenue has been completed, new seats have been erected along the entire thoroughfare, the area has been sodded and seeded, and signs placed requesting that dogs be kept off the grassed area.

Playground, VFW Parkway & Russett Road

The Commission was informed that the first phase of the contract for construction of a playground at VFW Parkway and Russett Road has been completed. Chief Engineer Byrne stated that when all phases are completed, the playground should be the finest in the city. It is planned to put in new modern equipment on the children's area, to have a mothers' area, and to have a section for basketball play, etc.

The cost of the first phase amounts to \$98,055.89. The next phase will soon be advertised. There is available in the appropriation the sum of \$63,944.11, which will not be sufficient to complete the work, and therefore additional appropriation of funds will be required.

Holland Playground--Mozart & Bolster Sts., Jamaica Plain

The Commissioners discussed the proposed taking, by the School Department, of a large section of Holland Playground at Mozart and Bolster Streets, Roxbury, for a site of a new school building to replace the present Lowell School. The playground adjoins the present school yard.

Present to discuss the matter with the Commissioners were Mr. Callanan, Superintendent of School Buildings Department and Mr. James W. Haley, Chief Engineer of the Public Improvement Committee. These gentlemen stated that it is the desire of the School Buildings Department to take the Holland Playground and five other parcels of land on which to erect the new building, and then to take down the present Lowell School building and use the site of this building and whatever land remains of the Holland Playground as the site of a new playground.

Special legislation will be required to make the land transfers and included in the legislative act will be provision for sufficient funds, the amount to be agreed upon by the School Department and the Parks and Recreation Department, to construct a new playground in accordance with plans to be prepared by the Parks and Recreation Department.

The Commissioners were agreed that this solution was in the best interests of the city and agreed to cooperate fully in the planning.

7/15/58

The Commission was informed that work has started on the construction of an underground vault at the State House in which will be stored vital records of the Commonwealth. This matter had been brought to the Commission's attention in September of 1957, when Mr. Maurice A. Reidy, consulting engineer, made request for permission to connect an emergency relief valve that would permit emergency drainage from the archives vault to the Boston Common drainage system.

On Monday, July 14, 1958, Mr. Reidy submitted to this department certain plans showing the proposed installation of the emergency relief valve and the piping that would be required under the surface of Boston Common.

Mr. Kerr, Chief Legal Assistant in the City Law Department who was present at today's meeting, informed the Commissioners that he had discussed the matter, from a legal viewpoint, with Mr. Hall Nichols, Supervisor of Construction for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and informed him that any problems Mr. Reidy has, relating to a permit for the installation of the emergency relief valve, should be taken up direct with Mr. Nichols, and that Mr. Reidy fully understands this requirement.

No further action was taken at today's meeting.

Building Permits referred to this department by Building Department:

119 Tremont Street: Work consists of one new stairway from main floor to entrance level, new elevator from entrance to main floor, and other interior work. Approved.

Contracts - Advertised and awarded to lowest bidder:

Constructing a Play Area at East Glenwood Avenue, Hyde Park, Mass. Contractor: Faletta Bros., Inc., 115 Providence Street, Hyde Park, Massachusetts. Amount, \$21,400.00

Furnishing and Erecting Portable Steel Bleachers at John J. Ryan, Jr., Playground, Charlestown, Massachusetts. Contractor: Mass. Scaffolding Co., 27 D Street, South Boston, Mass. Amount, \$ 2,865.00

Development of Burial Areas at Parks and Recreation Department Cemeteries in Boston, Mass. Contractor: D. F. Frangioso, 155 Savannah Avenue, Mattapan, Massachusetts. Amount, \$19,657.00

Shore Protection and Improvements at Jamaica Pond. Contractor: Joseph P. McCabe, Inc., 509 E. First Street, South Boston, Mass. Amount, \$59,680.00

Contracts (Unadvertised)

Roping and Staking of Playgrounds. Contractor: F. C. Dolan & Sons Co., Inc., 18 Aldworth Street, Jamaica Plain, Mass. Amount, \$4,970.00

Furnishing and Operating Floodlighting Equipment on a Rental Basis. Contractor: Lashua Portable Lighting, Inc., 594 Washington Street, Stoughton, Massachusetts. Amount, \$5,700.00

Extension of Time on Contract

Reconstructing Lafayette Mall, Boston Common, Boston, Mass. Contractor: C. C. Temple Construction Co., Inc., 729 Boylston Street, Boston, Massachusetts. Time extended to October 1, 1958.

7/15/58

(1) The Chief Engineer explained the necessity of removing trees at the head of Humboldt Avenue and Seaver Street to permit the MTA to re-design the busway at that location, this being necessary because of the widening of Seaver Street as a double-barrelled highway.

(2) The attention of the Commissioners was called to three floral displays designed and planted by the Horticultural Division of this department. Two of these displays are on the Public Garden, one honoring the national Greek Order HEPA and the other the Navy Mothers' Clubs of America. The third is in the park area opposite the Hotel Kenmore and is in honor of the First Division of the United States Marine Corps.

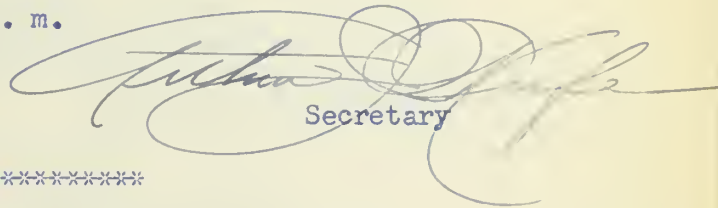
Legislative Acts

The following recent legislative acts concern this department but do not directly involve it:

(1) Chapter 352, Acts of 1958: An Act Increasing the Penalty for Injuring or Defacing Tombs and Structures Designed as Memorials to the Dead.

(2) Chapter 364, Acts of 1958: An Act Providing for the Payment of Prevailing Wages for Work Done on Demolition of Structures Preliminary to the Construction of Public Works.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:20 p. m.


Secretary

August 21, 1958

A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at this office, 33 Beacon Street, Boston, today at 10:40 a. m.

Present: Commissioner Frank R. Kelley and Associate Commissioners Daniel G. O'Connor, Thomas J. Carty and Harry J. Blake. Absent, Associate Commissioner O. Phillip Snowden.

Voted, to dispense with reading of minutes of previous meeting.

Park Land--Chestnut Hill Avenue & Commonwealth Avenue

The Commission had before it a communication from the attorney for Maimonides School authorities, addressed to His Honor the Mayor and referred by the Mayor to the Parks and Recreation Commissioners. The communication contained a request for purchase of park land in the Brighton district for use as the site of a new Maimonides School building. The land is located at Chestnut Hill Avenue and Commonwealth Avenue, bordering Chestnut Hill Reservoir, and contains approximately 297,981 square feet.

The Commissioners were given the following brief history of this land area since its acquisition as park land:

1. Site taken by the Park Department on April 15, 1899, under Ch. 274 of the Acts of 1899.

2. In 1950 a Mr. Hatch, agent for a large insurance company, called at the Parks and Recreation Department office and stated that the company which he represented desired to build on this land. Nothing further heard from this company.

3. Shortly after the organization of the present Commission in 1954, Attorney Joseph J. Gottlieb and Architect Saul Moffie brought before the Commission a request for acquisition of the site for the erection of an apartment building. Plans were shown to the Commission illustrating the proposed multi-million dollar apartment building. Mr. Gottlieb and Mr. Moffie were granted a hearing upon request of the Mayor.

8/21/58

4. In July of 1957 the Boston Edison Company requested that they be allowed to purchase this land or, in the event that the land was not for sale that they be granted an easement over a portion of it for the purpose of laying an underground oil-filled cable. This request was referred to the Corporation Counsel for an opinion. Up to the present time no opinion received.

5. On July 24, 1958 the Mayor addressed a communication to Commissioner Frank R. Kelley with communication inclosed from Attorney Joseph Gottlieb, requesting sale of this land for Jewish school purposes.

As the Mayor was desirous of meeting with the Commissioners at the site of the land, at 12 o'clock noon today, for the purpose of inspecting the area and discussing the request for purchase, the Commissioners voted to take no action on the request until after their meeting with the Mayor and until they have had sufficient time to consider the matter thoroughly.

Holland Playground, Jamaica Plain

A special bill has been prepared by Mr. Kerr of the Law Department, for submission to the Legislature, entitled "Authorizing the City of Boston to Interchange the Use of Certain Playground and School Lands in the Roxbury District of Said City". The bill would permit the use of existing playground land for the site of a new school building and the use of the remaining playground land plus the site of the present school building for development of a new playground.

An agreement has been reached by the Parks and Recreation Commissioner and engineers of the Park, School Buildings and School departments accepting the above arrangement providing that a sum of \$66,000 be set aside for the development of a playground at this location after the new school building has been erected and the old one razed.

Northeastern University--Fenway Land

Mr. McDermott, of the Law Department, reported that the order for the sale of land at Forsyth Street and Hemenway Street, in the Fenway, will not be presented to the City Council until the president of Northeastern University, Dr. Ell, who desires to purchase the land for the University, can appear in person before the City Council and explain the University's reasons for wishing to purchase the land.

McConnell Park, Savin Hill, Dorchester

His Honor the Mayor has expressed keen interest in the development of the remaining area of McConnell Park for playground purposes, as soon as possible after construction of the Southeast Expressway.

The Secretary read a copy of a communication addressed to the Mayor under date of August 6, 1958, stating that Ch. 693 of the Acts of 1955 and Ch. 657 of the Acts of 1957 provide that the Real Estate Review Board shall determine the amount to be paid for public lands taken for highway purposes. The letter also stated that the City Auditor has earmarked certain funds in the account "Sales of City Property" for transfer to the Parks and Recreation Department when reconstruction of the playground begins.

Cummings Estate, Woburn

The Commission was informed that on August 8, 1958, a United States Marshal served notice on the Parks and Recreation Department and the Law Department, and on the Town of Burlington and Department of Corporations and Taxation at the State House, that the United States Government, through the Army Engineers, has taken 1.98 acres of additional land at the Cummings Estate for defense purposes.

This is usual procedure when the United States Government desires to acquire public lands. The Government brings an action of condemnation, through the Federal Court, whenever a city, town or state does not give up land willingly.

The Law Department states that the Government will make reimbursement for the land taken.

The proposed sale of this property was discussed by the Commission at its meeting on July 15, 1958, at which time it was voted to defer action on the matter until information was received from the Public Improvement Commission as to their plans for use of part of the land for an extension of Sigourney Street.

The Secretary then read a letter dated July 25, 1958, from the Public Improvement Commission, requesting that any sale of the land be made in accordance with plans which that Commission will submit in the near future.

It was voted to defer action until such time as the Public Improvement Commission submits a plan showing a proposed sub-division of the area.

Concurrence in Sale of Land in Brighton District

The Commission voted to concur with the Metropolitan District Commission in the sale of land located on Leo Birmingham Parkway and Wexford Street, in the Brighton district, such concurrence being required under Ch. 92 of the General Laws. The land is described as Parcel #1 on Land Court Plan #1435, and Parcel No. 3, Birmingham Parkway, shown on plan marked Hillside Avenue and Wexford Street, plan accession No. 36547x.

New Cemetery Law--Ch. 465 of Acts of 1958

The Commission was informed of the provisions of Chapter 465 of the Acts of 1958 entitled, "An Act Relative to the Burial of Bodies Brought into the Commonwealth", signed by the Governor on July 15. It defines certain rules which must be observed by cemetery superintendents and underakers before interment of bodies brought into Massachusetts for burial.

Building Permits

The following building permit was referred to the Parks and Recreation Department, by the Building Department, for approval:

374 Commonwealth Avenue - All interior renovations, removal of existing bathrooms, installation of new bathrooms, mechanical ventilation, etc. Approved.

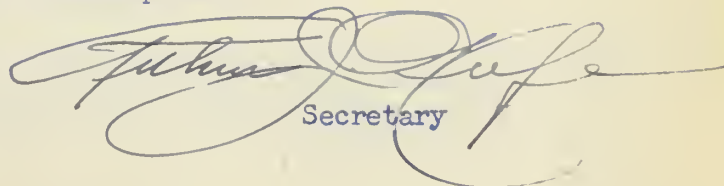
Contracts

Architect's Contract (unadvertised). Beautification of Lafayette Mall on Boston Common. Architect - Shurcliff & Merrill, 14 Beacon Street, Boston, Massachusetts. Amount of contract, 6% of construction contract, approximately \$12,920.00. (Construction contract amount, \$161,500). Approved.

Grading, Loaming & Sodding of John J. Ryan Playground, Charlestown, Mass. Awarded to Twinbrook Construction Co., 68 Green Street, Newton, Mass., the lowest bidder. Amount.....\$9125.00

Extension of Time for Completion of Contract: Construction a Play Area at Quincy and Stanley Streets, Dorchester, Mass. Time extended to August 20, 1958. Amount of contract, \$8959.75.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:10 o'clock p. m.


Secretary

September 25, 1958

A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at this office, 33 Beacon Street, today, at 10:50 o'clock a. m.

Present: Commissioner Frank R. Kelley and Associate Commissioners Daniel G. O'Connor, Thomas J. Carty, O. Phillip Snowden, and Harry J. Blake.

Voted, to dispense with reading of minutes of previous meeting.

Castle Island--Use of Area

The Commission considered the request of Attorney Robert J. Owens, representing the J. F. White Contracting Company, for permission for the White Company to use Castle Island Boulevard and a certain area of Castle Island for trucking of materials required in the performance of their work under their contract with the Metropolitan District Commission.

Present to discuss the matter with the Commissioners were the following: Attorney Owens and Mr. McDermott and Mr. White of the White Contracting Company, Mr. Fink, Chief Engineer of the Metropolitan District Commission, and Mr. Kerr, Chief Legal Assistant of the City Law Department.

After full discussion of the matter, the Commission

VOTED: That permission be granted to the J. F. White Contracting Company to use the Castle Island Boulevard and a certain area of Castle Island for trucking of materials necessary in performing the work under its contract with the Metropolitan District Commission entitled, "Pleasure Bay Contract #1051", upon condition that a bond be filed in the sum of \$35,000 to save harmless the City of Boston, its representatives and agents against all claims and demands for damages while the work is being performed.

In granting this permission to the J. F. White Contracting Company, it was understood that there would be no stockpiling of material on the Island. It was also understood that some haul roads must be constructed on the Island to provide access and passage for trucks and that on or before April 1, 1959 all roads and areas of Castle Island used by the White Company will be restored to the same condition that they were in at the time of the issuance of this permit.

Ross Estate

The Commissioners had before them a sub-division plan of the Ross Estate property, prepared by the Public Improvement Commission in connection with its recommendation to the Parks and Recreation Commission that "a right of way be reserved for a future public highway through land of the Ross Estate if said estate is to pass out of the City's possession".

After studying the plan the Commission again considered the request of Father Thom, pastor of the Ukrainian Catholic Church, for purchase of such area of the Ross Estate as will not be required by the City for highway purposes. The Commission then

VOTED: That the Corporation Counsel be requested to obtain appraisals of land on the Ross Estate included in the following parcels: (1) 128,615 square feet; (2) 19,716 square feet; (3) 3,472 square feet; (4) 1,388 square feet; as shown on plan entitled "City of Boston, Forest Hills Street, Glen Road, West Roxbury, September 18, 1958, James W. Haley, Division Engineer, Survey Division, Public Works Department".

The Commissioners agreed that, when appraisals have been received, Father Thom, Pastor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus Ukrainian Catholic Church, be invited to attend a meeting of the Commission to discuss his request for purchase of the property.

Park Land, Chestnut Hill Avenue & Commonwealth Avenue, Bordering Reservoir

9/25/58

On August 21, 1958 the Commissioners visited the park land at Chestnut Hill Avenue and Commonwealth Avenue, bordering the Reservoir, following receipt of a request for its purchase as a site for a Jewish parochial school.

The Commission took no further action on the matter at today's meeting.

Northeastern University--Park Land in Fenway

The Commission was informed that the matter of the proposed sale of park land at Hemenway Street and Forsyth Way to Northeastern University as authorized under Chapter 253 of the Acts of 1958, is now before the City Council Committee on Lands. No further action by the Commission is necessary.

McConnell Park, Savin Hill

The Commissioners were given the following data relating to a meeting held in the office of the Parks and Recreation Department on September 16, 1958, regarding the matter of providing an entrance road across City land to the Dorchester Yacht Club:

1. Present at this meeting were Commissioner Kelley, Chief Engineer Byrne, Administrative Assistant Arthur J. O'Keefe, and Mr. William Kerr of the City Law Department; also Mr. Sheridan, the Division Supervisor of the Public Works Department of the Commonwealth, and two other representatives of that department.
2. Mr. Sheridan stated that the Dorchester Yacht Club will be landlocked in, after completion of the Southeast Expressway and if the Parks and Recreation Department of the City has a new playground at this location which will include the present mothers' rest as a play area. It was brought out that the only safe traffic road would be over Springdale Road into the property.
3. After considerable discussion and upon agreement between Commissioner Kelley and Mr. Kerr, Mr. Sheridan and the representatives of the State Department of Public Works were informed that they should complete the expressway according to the terms of the existing contract.

The Parks and Recreation Commissioners were informed that a notice had appeared in the press recently, stating that Governor Furcolo had signed a bill which permits the transfer of a 1000-yard triangular patch of land in the Patten's Cove area to the Metropolitan District Commission for recreational development. Representative Robert Quinn, sponsor of the legislation, is reported to have said that the area will replace a considerable part of the McConnell Park section which was lost through highway construction.

Victory Road, Dorchester

The proposed sale of park land on Victory Road, Dorchester, has been before the Commission on previous occasions. Chapter 284 of the Acts of 1958 provides that the city may lease to Rice Post No. 28 American Veterans of World War II and Korea, Inc., a portion of this land, as determined by the Parks and Recreation Commission, for use as a recreational area and as headquarters for said post.

Mr. Kerr stated that as far as he is able to ascertain the right of Rice Post to lease this property has expired because they failed to take action prior to fourteen days from October 1, 1958 as required under the Act and that, therefore, the Commission may dispose of the property for industrial or other purposes.

9/25/58

The Commission was informed that a bill providing for the construction of a garage under Boston Common by an appointed Authority was introduced into the Senate and won almost unanimous support. The Authority, when appointed, is to be advanced \$100,000 from the general fund to begin operations, but it will finance the project by the issuance of interest bearing bonds. Two of the three authority members are to be appointed by the Governor and the third member by the Mayor of Boston. The bill will go to the House of Representatives for final approval.

North End Park and Beach

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts, through its Department of Public Works, has entered into a contract for the removal of two abandoned piers located on the main waterfront at the site of the North End Park beach.

The Mayor has approved an indemnity agreement in which he agrees to indemnify and save harmless the Commonwealth, its representatives and agents against all claims and demands for damages while the work is being performed.

Building Permit. The following building permit was referred to the Parks and Recreation Department, by the Building Department, for approval:

325 Commonwealth Avenue - Change of occupancy from lodging house to dormitory. No structural changes to be made. Approved

Contracts advertised and awarded to lowest bidder:

1. Asphalt Surfacing of Roadways at Parks and Recreation Department Cemeteries in Boston, Mass. Contractor: National Contractors Co., Inc., 60 State Street, Boston, Massachusetts. Amt., \$10,710.50
2. Loaming, Grading and Sodding at Franklin Park Golf Course, West Roxbury, Mass. Contractor: Transit Seeding Inc., 139 Providence Street, Hyde Park, Massachusetts. Amt., \$16,348.00
3. Furnishing and Erecting Wire Fences at Veterans of Foreign Wars Parkway, West Roxbury, Mass. Contractor: P. J. Dinn & Co., 60 Freeport Street, Dorchester, Massachusetts. Amt., \$ 8,790.50

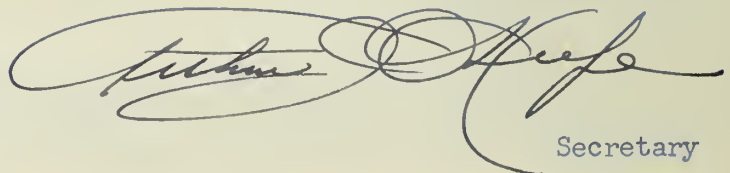
Extension of Time for completion of Contract: Removal of Dead or Diseased Trees in City of Boston. Contractor: Fred Ralston & Co., time extended to March 2, 1959.

Park Land - Roxbury District

The Commission discussed a request presented by Atty. Jason M. Poster, on behalf of a client, for purchase of undeveloped park land on Vernon Street between Cabot and Lamont Street, Roxbury.

It was voted that the matter be laid on the table until a future meeting. In the meantime the Secretary will talk with Mr. McDermott of the City Law Department, regarding necessary steps for disposition of the property if the Commissioners are disposed to sell it. Land was acquired in 1941.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:40 p. m.


Secretary

October 8, 1958

A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at this office, 33 Beacon Street, today, at 10:40 o'clock a. m.

Present: Commissioner Frank R. Kelley and Associate Commissioners Daniel G. O'Connor and Harry J. Blake. Absent: Associate Commissioners Thomas J. Carty and O. Phillip Snowden.

Voted: To dispense with reading of minutes of the previous meeting.

Report on Public Baths

The Commissioners discussed the report made by the Boston Municipal Research Bureau, regarding operation of the city's public baths, entitled "A Costly Anachronism".

After detailed discussion of the recommendations presented in the report, it was voted that, before making any reply to the report, the members of the Commission would visit all the facilities criticized by the Research Bureau in order to have first-hand information. It was agreed that the Commission members would meet at the office of the Parks and Recreation Department on Tuesday, October 14, at 10 a. m., and proceed from there to visit the bath facilities.

It was further voted that, after visiting the facilities, the Commission would hold another meeting, on October 21, at the Commission office, for the purpose of drafting a reply to the report for presentation to His Honor the Mayor on October 24, when the Commission is to meet with the Mayor.

Lafayette Mall, Boston Common

The Commission was informed that an extension of time for completion of the contract for Reconstructing Lafayette Mall, Boston Common, had been granted to November 1, 1958, the contractor being C. C. Temple Construction Company.

The Commission was also informed that the following additional work on this contract, amounting to \$4,741.00, had been approved:

- | | |
|---|-------------|
| 1. Concrete Benches | \$ 1,830.00 |
| 2. Gravel fill, 333.5 cu. yds. | 2,001.00 |
| 3. Waterproofing at subway kiosks, | 625.00 |
| 4. Addition of "Terralite" to
loam planters, ... | 285.00 |

TOTAL Addition	<u>\$ 4,741.00</u>
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Original Contract	\$137,509.25
Addition	<u>4,741.00</u>

Contract to date	<u>\$142,250.25</u>
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Contracts The Commission was informed that the following contracts were publicly advertised and awarded to the lowest bidders:

Furnishing and Erecting Steel Post and Chain Barrier Fence at Copley Square, Boston, Mass. Contractor: P. J. Dinn & Co., 60 Freeport Street, Dorchester, Massachusetts. Amt....\$4,710.00

Repairs to Park Benches, Boston Common. Contractor: F. C. Dolan & Son, Inc., 18 Aldworth St., Jamaica Plain, Mass. \$14,929.00

10/8/58

The following matters were called to the attention of the Commission:

Fenway Land--Northeastern University

The City Council held a public hearing on Tuesday, October 7, at which were present certain officials of Northeastern University, the department heads of the city government who would be involved in the sale of the property, and residents of the area, some of whom were in favor of the sale, others against it. The Parks and Recreation Department was represented by Commissioner Frank R. Kelley, Administrative Assistant Arthur J. O'Keefe, and Chief Engineer Daniel J. Byrne.

The Parks and Recreation Department representatives, when called upon, were questioned briefly. Mr. O'Keefe read the minutes of the various meetings relating to the proposed sale of the land to Northeastern, Mr. Byrne described the layout of the property, and the Commissioner explained the recreational purposes for which the land has been used.

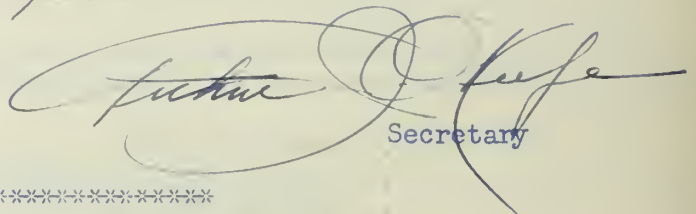
West Street Shopping Mall

The Traffic Commission voted to extend the privilege of closing off this area from 11:30 to 2:30 p. m. daily, for a period of one month.

Castle Island

Permission has been officially granted to the J. F. White Contracting Company to use a portion of Castle Island protruding toward the Head House Causeway and lying along the southerly side of the fence surrounding the Army Signal Corps Station. This area is to be used in connection with the interlocking basin being constructed in Pleasure Bay. In compliance with the vote of the Commission, the contracting company has filed with the Parks and Recreation Department a bond in the sum of \$35,000.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:15 P.M.


Secretary

October 21, 1958

A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at this office today, at 10:50 a. m.

Present: Commissioner Frank R. Kelley and Associate Commissioners Daniel G. O'Connor, Thomas J. Carty, O. Phillip Snowden, and Harry J. Blake.

Voted, to dispense with reading of minutes of previous meeting.

Report on Bath Division

The Commissioners again discussed the report of the Boston Municipal Research Bureau entitled, "A Costly Anachronism", relating to the operation and maintenance of the Bath Division of this department. Present during this discussion were Superintendent of Baths John J. Butler and Chief Engineer Daniel J. Byrne.

The Commissioners stated that they had been studying the report and evaluating information acquired in their visits to several of the bath facilities including the laundry and sewing room, which were made for the purpose of obtaining first-hand knowledge of the operation of these facilities and their value to the communities they serve.

It is the opinion of the Commissioners that as the report of the Bureau is very comprehensive and detailed in character, they require additional time

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for thorough study of the recommendations made by the Bureau. It is also the opinion of the Commissioners that the voice of the people in the districts served by these facilities should be heard, as the health and well-being of many of these citizens depend to some extent on this municipal service.

It was therefore voted that the Mayor be informed that the Commissioners desire additional time for further study of the city's bath facilities and the report of the Municipal Research Bureau in regard to them, before coming to any definite conclusions on the recommendations made by the Bureau.

It was also agreed that the Commission suggest to His Honor the Mayor that a copy of the Bureau's report be turned over to the Boston Finance Commission for study and comment.

Building Permits referred to Parks and Recreation Department, by Building Department, for approval:

648 Beacon Street, Boston - Remove 55 old windows to be replaced with aluminum windows. Request of 648 Beacon Street Corporation.
Approved.

117 Commonwealth Avenue - Change fourth and third floor apartments into one apartment thus reducing occupancy from eight to seven suites. Request of owner, Lester Werman.

Contracts

The following work was publicly advertised and awarded to lowest bidder:
"Furnishing and Installing Electric Service Pipe at Veterans of Foreign Wars Parkway Playground, West Roxbury, Mass." Awarded to Burnett S. Rosenbloom, 170 Payson Road, Chestnut Hill 67, Massachusetts. Amount...\$7,875.00

The following contracts were unadvertised but awarded with approval of His Honor the Mayor:

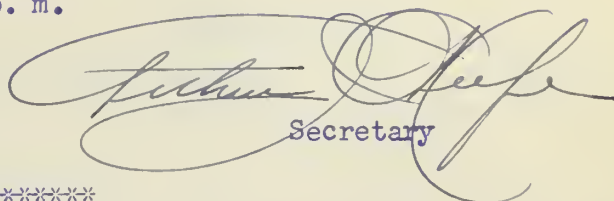
"Furnishing and Planting Dwarf Yew Trees in Rectangular Boxes on Lafayette Mall, Boston Common". Contractor: Blueview Nurseries, 32 Gaston Street, Roxbury, Massachusetts. Amount....\$4,700.00

"Furnishing and Planting Shrubs and Trees and Incidental Work on Lafayette Mall, Boston Common". Contractor: Corless Bros. Nurseries, Ipswich, Massachusetts. Amount....\$4,783.56

Temporary Closing of Play Area

The Chief Engineer reports that he has received notice from the City's Director of Demolition that certain buildings on Holyoke Street, South End, are to be removed. The Director requested that our small play area on Holyoke Street, opened in 1951, be closed until the demolition work has been completed. The Chief Engineer reported that the play area has been closed temporarily.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p. m.


Secretary

December 10, 1958

A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at this office, 33 Beacon Street, Boston, today, at 10:40 a. m.

Present: Commissioner Frank R. Kelley and Associate Commissioners Thomas J. Carty and O. Phillip Snowden. Absent: Associate Commissioners Daniel G. O'Connor and Harry J. Blake.

Voted, to dispense with reading of minutes of previous meeting.

Report on Bath Division

In connection with the recent report on the Bath Division made by the Municipal Research Bureau, the Secretary informed the Commissioners that the receipts from the public bath buildings will be approximately \$4700 less in the year 1958 than in 1957. The Secretary also presented a statement listing the total yearly receipts of this division for each year from 1948 through 1958, which shows that although receipts remained at approximately the same level from 1948 through 1952, from then on there has been a steady decline except in the year 1957 when the price of towels and soap dispensed to patrons was increased. Receipts to date in 1958 indicate that we are again on a downward trend.

Superintendent Butler presented actual figures of attendance at seven of the bath houses which indicate that there is an actual attendance, daily, varying from 100 in some buildings to 325 persons in others. An accurate count is being taken of patrons at other locations, and a report will be made to the Commission at a later date.

The Commissioners voted to discuss this matter at a future meeting.

Building Permit--99 Commonwealth Avenue

The Commission gave consideration to an application made to the Building Department by Clarendon Development Corporation, and forwarded to the Parks and Recreation Department for approval, for permit to erect a building seventeen stories in height, at 99 Commonwealth Avenue corner of Clarendon Street. The location is in a residential (R-80) 80-foot district and within 100 feet of a park or parkway.

Nature and character of work: Multiple family apartment house consisting of about 148 apartments, appurtenant parking below the level of the ground for tenants. Structure to be 17 stories high and to have balconies.

A hearing will be held on Friday, December 12, at 9:30 a.m., in the office of the Board of Appeal, at which time the Clarendon Development Corporation will ask for a variance in the zoning law to allow a building 170 feet high to be erected in an 80-foot residential district.

After carefully considering the matter, the Commission went on record as favoring a change in the city ordinances so as to allow construction of a building at 99 Commonwealth Avenue 170 feet in height. Chief Engineer Daniel J. Byrne, Jr. was assigned to attend the hearing before the Board of Appeal and present the views of the Commission.

Aquarium Site

The Commission considered a Council Order introduced in to the City Council by Councillor Peter Hines, asking that the Park Commission be ordered to take the necessary steps to demolish the Aquarium building in Marine Park, South Boston, and replace the structure with a field house and to renovate and suitable equip the adjacent fields to accommodate athletic and recreational activities taking place in this area, and that the location be known as "Cardinal Cushing Park".

The Commissioners agreed that they would be happy to comply with the recommendations contained in the Order, if and when an appropriation for the purpose is made available.

1210-53

Concurrence with MDC in Land Sale

The Commission voted to concur with the Metropolitan District Commission in the conveyance of a parcel of land situated in the West Roxbury District, on Veterans of Foreign Wars Parkway at Gardner Street, to Dennis Brothers, Inc., of Boston. Said land contains 1069 square feet as shown on MDC Plan Accession Number 37226-V.T., dated October 10, 1958. The deed was signed by the Park Commissioners present at today's meeting, such concurrence being required by Section 85 of Chapter 92 of the General Laws.

DeFilippo Plgrd.--Ball Playing

The Commission was given a report, prepared by Mr. Kerr of the Law Department, on the status of a suit brought against the City of Boston by Anthony Orlandella, owner of the property at 42 Sheafe Street, Boston, to enjoin ball playing on the Private John DeFilippo Playground for the reason that such play damages complainant's property.

The report states that the suit has been discharged from further hearing at the present time for the purpose of affording the Parks and Recreation Commission an opportunity to erect structures or equipment that will deter the playing of baseball or soft ball games (other than by children under the age of 13 years) on this playground. If such structures or equipment are so placed on or before June 15, 1959, the suit will be dismissed. Otherwise, the suit may be set down for trial on the merits.

Cummings Estate--Burlington Water Dept.

The Commission gave consideration to a request of the Water Commissioners of the Town of Burlington for purchase of a section of land on the Mary P. C. Cummings Estate in Burlington, for water supply purposes. The desired area is approximately 150 ft. by 200 ft., and is located 600 feet beyond our shelter building. The Burlington Water Commissioners offer the sum of \$1000 in payment for the land.

The Parks and Recreation Commission went on record as favoring the sale of the land to the Town of Burlington for water purposes, subject to a favorable decision from the Corporation Counsel for the City of Boston on the right of the Parks Commission to sell the land. Chief Engineer Byrne was designated to discuss the matter with Mr. Kerr or Mr. McDermott, of the Law Department, and to report to the Commission at the next meeting.

West Street--Temple Place

In accordance with a request of the Sanitary Division of the Public Works Department, the Commission agreed to have the benches and the ornamental tubs with plantings of shrubs and trees removed from the West Street and Temple Place shopping malls during the winter season in order to facilitate snow removal.

Matters of Information

The following matters were called to the attention of the Commission, although no action by the Commissioners is required on any of them:

1. Chapter 39 of the General Laws, Sections 23A and 23B, which become effective January 5, 1959, requires that meetings of public boards, commissions and school committees shall be open to the public and the press, except executive sessions .

2. A recent report of the Municipal Research Bureau entitled, "White Paper Failure" was presented to the Commissioners. Under the terms of the White Paper, each department was expected to reduce its personnel quota during the year 1958 by 5 per cent.

At the start of 1958 the Parks and Recreation Department had 655 permanent employees. Our budget for 1959 calls for 628, a reduction of 37, or 5.7 per cent. Therefore, the report on the White Paper Failure does not apply to this department.

12/10/58

3. Boston Common Garage--Parking Authority

The Commissioners were given copies of Ch. 606 of the Legislative acts entitled, "An Act Providing for the Construction, Maintenance, Repair, Operation or Leasing of a Garage for the Parking of Motor Vehicles Under Boston Common in the City of Boston and Creating the Massachusetts Parking Authority, Defining its Powers and Duties and Providing for the Financing of Such Garage".

Under the terms of the Act the Parking Authority shall consist of three unpaid members, two to be appointed by the Governor with approval of the Council, and the third member to be such officer of the city as the Mayor of the city shall from time to time designate, who shall serve ex officio.

Information has been received that the Governor has appointed William Callahan of the Massachusetts Turnpike Authority and George Brady, Editor of the Boston American, to serve as members of the Authority, and that the Mayor of the city has appointed Frank R. Kelley, Parks and Recreation Commissioner, to serve ex officio as the third member of the Parking Authority.

4. Other Legislative Acts

Chapter 553 and Chapter 566, of the Acts of 1958, involve playground construction work in the City of Boston to be done at the expense of the Metropolitan District Commission.

Chapter 553, "An Act Providing for the Construction of a Children's Play Area Adjacent to Victory Road in Dorchester", and Chapter 566, "An Act Authorizing the Metropolitan District Commission to Acquire Certain Land in the Dorchester District of the City of Boston for a Recreational Area" (land known as Patten's Cove adjacent to and westerly of the Wm. T. Morrissey Boulevard).

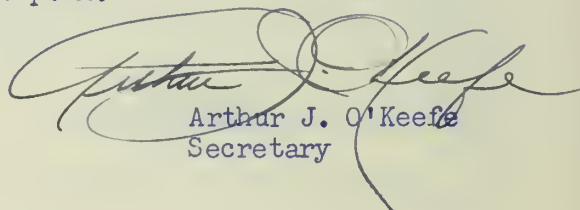
5. Rogers Park, Brighton

The Commission was informed that permission was granted to the Allston YMCA to have an entrance from their new building in Allston directly into Rogers Park, all work and expense to be assumed by the YMCA.

6. Golf Rates at State Courses

The Commission was informed that MDC Commissioner Charles Greenough has announced that the 1959 season ticket rates for the Ponkapoag Golf Course will be \$70.00, which is double the previous charge, and the same rate has been established for the state course at Riverdale. This corresponds to the rate that we charge at George Wright Course for non-residents.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:40 p. m.


Arthur J. O'Keefe
Secretary

1959

January 27, 1959

A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Department was held at this office, 33 Beacon Street, today, at 10:50 o'clock a. m.

Present: Commissioner Frank R. Kelley and Associate Commissioners Daniel O'Connor, Thomas J. Carty and O. Phillip Snowden. Absent: Associate Commissioners Harry J. Blake.

Voted, to accept minutes of previous meeting without reading.

Land at Chestnut Hill Avenue and Commonwealth Avenue.

The Commission gave consideration to the matter of securing another appraisal of park land at the junction of Chestnut Hill Avenue and Commonwealth Avenue, in the Brighton district, said land containing approximately 64,000 square feet. The proposed sale of this land has been before the Commission on several previous occasions and an appraisal, dated June 29, 1956, made for the City, placed a value on the land of \$160,000.

Under date of July 19, 1956 a communication was sent to His Honor the Mayor requesting that an order be submitted to the City Council which would authorize the sale of this land at public auction, at an upset price of \$160,000. The order was later withdrawn from the Council.

The Commissioners have now been informed that the area in which this land is located has been re-zoned to a residential 155-foot district, also that the multi-story apartment building which may be erected on the land will occupy only about 30% of the total area, and that land values in the immediate vicinity are much lower than the value set upon the park land in the City's appraisal made in June of 1956, all of which may tend to change the present appraised value.

It was, therefore, Voted to request the Corporation Counsel to obtain another appraisal of the park land located at the junction of Chestnut Hill Avenue and Commonwealth Avenue.

Lafayette Mall

Commissioner Kelley reported to the Board members that the first phase of construction work on Lafayette Mall has been completed and that the engineering division of the department is now in the process of drawing up two contracts for work to be done in 1959. One contract is for work on the Mall which will include construction of the fountain and memorial areas, and the other is for sculpture work, all work to be started early in the spring of 1959.

Arts Festival--Public Garden

Voted, that the request of the Boston Arts Festival Committee, for use of the Public Garden for the 1959 Festival, be laid on the table until the next meeting of the Commission. This action was taken in order to enable Representative Frenning, of Ward 5, to come before the Commission to discuss a plan showing a proposed location on Boston Common for the Festival which he believes would be a satisfactory alternative for the location on the Public Garden where the Festival has been held in recent years.

McConnell Park, Savin Hill, Dorchester

The Commission was informed that the field house on McConnell Park, which has been used as a field office by the Wes-Julian Construction Company during highway construction in that area, has been returned to custody of the Parks and Recreation Department.

The Chief Engineer talked on the subject of future development and improvement of this area as planned in a conference he had with Mr. Kerr of the City's Law Department and Commissioner DiNatale of the Public Works Department of the Commonwealth.

Boston Common Garage

4/27/59

Commissioner Kelley informed the Commission of the latest developments regarding construction of the Boston Common underground garage, which is now in charge of the Massachusetts Parking Authority.

Charlesgate West--Elpanco, Inc.

The Secretary read a communication from Hirsh Freed, attorney for Elpanco, Inc., requesting an extension of time for another one-year period beginning January 1, 1959, for fulfillment of his client's agreement to cover the walls of the two buildings at Charlesgate West with brick veneer, or to construct a new building between these two existing buildings.

The Commission were of the opinion that Elpanco, Inc. should take some action toward fulfilling its agreement and that sufficient time has already been allowed for completion of the project.

It was therefore Voted, that an extension of time be granted Elpanco, Inc., for a period of six months only, with the understanding that if a building is under construction at the end of that period, located between the two existing buildings at Charlesgate West, another extension will be granted.

Northeastern University--Park Land

The attention of the Commission was called to a City Council order, filed by Councillor Foley, proposing certain restrictions on the use of park land at Forsyth Street and Hemenway Street which Northeastern University desires to purchase, and on the type of building to be erected there. The order also proposed that as an alternative the University convey to the city another parcel of land suitable for development for park use, to replace the plot desired by the University.

Cummings Estate, Woburn

The Commission considered several requests for purchase of certain tracts of land on the Cummings Estate property in Woburn, as follows:

1. Request of High Voltage Engineering Corporation for purchase of approximately six acres of land on the Cummings Estate for plant expansion.

Voted, that the request be laid on the table.

2. Taking of land on Cummings Estate by Burlington Water District, required for location of a water stand pipe. This matter has been referred to Law Department. No action taken at this meeting, pending report from Law Department.

3. Notice from U. S. Attorney regarding acquisition, by U. S. Government, of 1.98 acres of land for military purposes. Matter in hands of Law Department. No action taken at this meeting, pending report from Law Department.

Commonwealth Avenue at Clarendon Street,
Zoning Variance

The Commission was informed that, with the approval of the Parks and Recreation Commission given at a previous meeting, a member of the engineering staff of this department attended a hearing before the Board of Zoning Adjustment held on January 21, 1959, regarding a petition for a zoning variance that would permit the construction of a 171-foot-high apartment building on Commonwealth Avenue at Clarendon Street.

The representative of this department presented a statement to the Zoning Board to the effect that the Parks and Recreation Commission favors a change in the building restrictions so as to allow the construction of a modern apartment building to a height of 171 feet at the location in question, and also favors the

1/21/59

application of said change in the zoning laws to all of Commonwealth Avenue from Arlington Street to Kenmore Square.

East Boston Stadium

The Commission considered a request presented to it, that the East Boston Stadium be named the "East Boston Veterans Stadium". Request was made by the East Boston Veterans Council, Inc.

Voted, that the matter be laid on the table for future consideration.

Matters of Information

The following matters of interest were called to the attention of the Commission:

1. Permission has been granted for the removal of a tree in front of 330 Beacon Street, which was in such a location that it obstructed work of erection of a new 15-story apartment building. The tree will be replaced, later, by another tree in the same general area.
2. Arnold Arboretum. The case of Arnold Arboretum Visiting Committee vs. President and Fellows of Harvard College has finally been scheduled to be argued in Supreme Judicial Court. The case concerns the use of income of the Arnold Arboretum Trust Funds.
3. Request has been made on the City Auditor for the carrying forward into 1959 of all amounts of money allocated to 19 different contracts which were not completed in 1958 but which will be completed in 1959.
4. The Secretary read a notice from William Arthur Reilly, addressed to all department heads, containing a statement that the Parks and Recreation Department, with one or two other departments, had reduced its personnel quota by 5% as requested by the City Government.

Contracts Awarded (Advertised)

1. Repairs to Park Benches, Boston Common, Boston, Mass. Awarded to F. C. Dolan & Sons, Inc., 18 Aldworth Street, Jamaica Plain, Mass. \$14,929.00
2. Furnishing and Installing Electric Service Pipe at Veterans of Foreign Wars Parkway Playground, West Roxbury, Mass. Awarded to Burnett S. Rosenbloom, 170 Payson Road, Chestnut Hill 67, Massachusetts. \$ 7,875.00
3. Repairs to Brewer Fountain, Boston Common, Boston, Mass. Awarded to McCann Bronze Incorporated, 27 Village St., Somerville, Mass. \$ 7,778.00
4. Furnishing and Erecting Christmas Trees at Various Locations in the City of Boston. Awarded to Blueview Nurseries, 32 Gaston Street, Roxbury, \$5,560.00

Contract Changes

1. Reconstructing Lafayette Mall, Boston Common, Boston, Mass. Contractor: C. C. Temple Construction Co., 729 Boylston Street, Boston:

16 Concrete Benches,	\$ 1,830.00
333.5 c.y. gravel fill,	2,001.00
Waterproofing Subway Kiosks,	625.00
Addition of "Serralite", (soil conditioner),	285.00
Total of Change Order	\$ 4,741.00
Contract Price	136,550.41
Contract as Standing	\$141,291.41
(Final Amt. - Contract Completed)	

Contracts - Extension of Time

1/27/59

1. Loaming, Grading and Sodding at Franklin Park Golf Course, W. Roxbury, Mass. Contractor: Transit Seeding, Inc., 139 Providence Street, Hyde Park, Mass. Time for completion extended to June 1, 1959. Amt. \$16,348.00
2. Repairs to Park Benches, Boston Common, Boston, Mass. Contractors: F. C. Dolan & Sons, Inc., 18 Aldworth Street, Jamaica Plain. Amount of Contract, \$14,929.00. Time for completion extended to May 1, 1959.
3. Grading, Surfacing & Improvements at Jefferson Playground, W. Roxbury, Mass. Contractor: DeVirgilio General Contracting, 25 Brookdale Avenue, Dedham, Mass. Time for completion extended to June 1, 1959. Amt. \$24,698.00.
4. Shore Protection and Improvements at Jamaica Pond, W. Roxbury, Mass. Contractor: Joseph P. McCabe, Inc., 509 E. First Street, South Boston, Mass. Time for completion extended to June 1, 1959. Amt. \$59,680.00

Report on Bath Division - "A Costly Anachronism"

The remainder of the meeting was devoted to a discussion of the recent report issued by the Municipal Research Bureau, entitled "A Costly Anachronism", which pertains to the operation of the public baths within the Parks and Recreation Department.

Invited to attend this part of the meeting were William Arthur Reilly, Director of Administrative Services for the City, and Joseph Slavet, Executive Secretary of the Municipal Research Bureau.

Mr. Slavet spoke in detail of the results of the survey and of the benefits he thought would accrue to the City by closing some or all of the public baths.

Commissioner Kelley spoke at length on the personnel problem that would face the department with the closing of the bath buildings, chief of which would be the problem of reassigning displaced personnel to other positions. The Commissioners discussed various solutions to this problem.

Reports were then presented showing attendance at the public showers obtained by an actual count made recently, and the Secretary read financial records showing total income of the bath division over a ten-year period and income from individual buildings during the two-year period 1957 and 1958.

After Mr. Reilly and Mr. Slavet had left the meeting room, the Commission members stated that they were of the opinion that they should sit down with the Mayor and discuss the whole matter thoroughly before coming to any definite decision as to the future of the public baths in the City.

The meeting was adjourned at 1 o'clock p. m.


Secretary

February 26, 1959

A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at the office of the Commission, 33 Beacon Street, Boston, today, at 10.30 o'clock a. m.

Present: Commissioner Frank R. Kelley and Associate Commissioners Thomas J. Carty, O. Phillip Snowden and Harry J. Blake. Absent: Associate Commissioner Daniel G. O'Connor.

Voted, to accept the minutes of the previous meeting without reading.

Cummings Estate--Burlington Water District

Corporation Counsel William L. Baxter and Assistant Corporation Counsel William A. McDermott were present during this part of the meeting to discuss with the Commission the requests of the Federal Government, the Town of Burlington, and the High Voltage Engineering Corporation for purchase of parcels of land on the Mary P. C. Cummings Estate.

On advice of the legal counsel, the Commission voted to take no action on the requests of the Federal Government and High Voltage Engineering Corporation until such time as appraisals of the land have been obtained by the Law Department and submitted to the Commission.

In the matter of the taking of a parcel of land by the Burlington Water District, approximately 150 ft x 200 ft. on the Cummings Estate, for water purposes, the Commission was informed that a check had been received, in the sum of \$1000.00, in settlement of the taking. After due consideration, the Commission

VOTED: To accept the check for \$1000.00 pro-tonto, without waiving the City of Boston rights to petition the Superior Court for further damages in connection with this land taking.

Use of Cemetery Trust Funds Income

The Commission considered the matter of appropriating the sum of \$390,000 from the interest accumulated on perpetual care funds to the budget of the Cemetery Division for maintenance expenses during the year 1959, and thus eliminate the necessity of appropriating any money to the Cemetery Division from the tax levy for this year.

Corporation Counsel Baxter advised the Commission that the earnings on Cemetery Trust Funds are no different than the earnings on other city trust funds and may be used for maintenance purposes at the discretion of the proper city officials.

The Commission voted to take no action in the matter of appropriation of the cemetery trust funds income for maintenance of the Cemetery Division until after the hearing on the department budget before the City Council on March 24.

Use of Parkman Fund Income

The Commission considered the suggestion of His Honor the Mayor that the sum of \$100,000 be allotted from the Parkman Fund income for 1959 as it accrues, to pay salaries of employees in the Parks and Recreation Department.

The Commission voted to concur with the Mayor in his efforts to reduce the appropriation for the Parks and Recreation Department by applying the sum of \$100,000 from the income of the Parkman Fund to the payment of salaries of park personnel engaged in maintenance work on park areas that come within the terms of the Parkman Will.

2/26/59

Filene Memorial

The Commission voted unanimously to approve the erection of a memorial to Edward A. Filene, father of the credit union movement in the United States, on a site on Boston Common near the Central Burying Ground, in the vicinity of Park Square as agreed upon by the Chief Engineer of this department and Representative Norman S. Weinberg, who was acting for the memorial committee.

It was agreed by all parties concerned that the expense for erection of the memorial shall be borne by the memorial committee and that if at any time the construction work on Boston Common underground garage should require the removal of the memorial to another location, the expense of removal shall be borne by the said committee.

The form of the memorial was approved by the Boston Art Commission in a letter to the Park Commissioners dated January 29, 1959.

Ahlsen Playground, Dorchester

The Commission discussed the matter of disposing of the Ahlsen Playground area, on Victory Road, Dorchester, which is no longer required for park or playground purposes.

On advice of Mr. McDermott of the Law Department, the matter was laid on the table until such time as the Law Department has an opportunity to investigate further to determine whether the land may be sold by the Parks and Recreation Department or should be transferred to the Real Property Division for sale by that division.

Art Festival

The Commission discussed the request of the Boston Arts Festival Committee for use of the Public Garden in 1959 for the annual Art Festival, this matter having been laid on the table at the meeting of January 27.

Also under discussion, in connection with the Art Festival, was a plan presented by Representative John Frenning at this meeting, showing a proposed location on Boston Common for the Art Festival.

Voted, to take the matter under advisement, until the next meeting.

Kaplan Memorial--Relocation

The Commission considered the request of Representative Norman Weinberg for the removal of the monument in memory of Stanley Kaplan, from its present location on Commonwealth Avenue at Washington Street, Brighton, to the park area in front of Temple Bnai Mosh on Commonwealth Avenue subject to the approval of Rabbi Joseph Shubow, spiritual head of Temple Bnai. It is understood that the removal and re-erection of the monument is to be done at no expense to the Parks and Recreation Department.

School Department Land Areas

The Commission voted unanimously to approve the action of Commissioner Kelley in declining to accept the following abandoned school sites from the School Department for possible development as park or play areas:

Frothingham School, Charlestown; Franklin School, Boston; Savin Hill School, Dorchester, and the property at the corner of Harbor View Street and Dorchester Avenue, site of the former Cora L. Etheridge School.

Girls' High School, West Newton Street. Voted, that the Commission would give no further consideration to this site until such time as the building has been removed and the site cleared, all without expense to the Parks and Recreation Department and, after this has been done, until a report of contemplated improvements has been submitted to the Commission by the Planning Board.

Transfer of Columbia Road

2/26/59

The Commission discussed a communication from Robert P. Shea, Commissioner of the Public Works Department, stating that his department will accept the transfer of that portion of Columbia Road from Moseley Street to Edward Everett Square now under care and control of the Parks and Recreation Department.

For economic reasons and in order to eliminate divided responsibility in the maintenance, care, snow removal, etc., of Columbia Road from Moseley Street to Edward Everett Square, the Commission voted unanimously to transfer this area to the Public Works Department of the city.

Legislative Bills--Garvey Playground

The Secretary informed the Commission of some legislative bills now pending before the legislature which concern this department.

Among these bills is House Bill #1645, which would authorize the Metropolitan District Commission to acquire the William Garvey Playground in the Dorchester district and to maintain it as a recreational area. The bill was reported adversely by the Committee on Metropolitan Affairs, but, despite the adverse report, the bill was submitted in the House of Representatives and was passed at first reading.

The Parks and Recreation Commission voted unanimously to go on record as opposed to House Bill #1645.

Building Permits

The following building permit was referred by the Building Department to the Parks and Recreation Department for approval.

471 Commonwealth Avenue - Change of occupancy from eight doctors' suites and one laboratory, to one basement laboratory, six doctors' suites and two apartments. Request of Mary V. Dettorre.

Approved.

Absence of Commissioner from City

The Commission was informed that Commissioner Kelley has the approval of His Honor the Mayor to be absent from the city, on vacation, from March 2 to March 13, 1959, and that Arthur J. O'Keefe, Administrative Assistant, will sign all necessary papers for proper conduct of department during this period.

The meeting was adjourned at 1 o'clock p. m.


Secretary

March 19, 1959

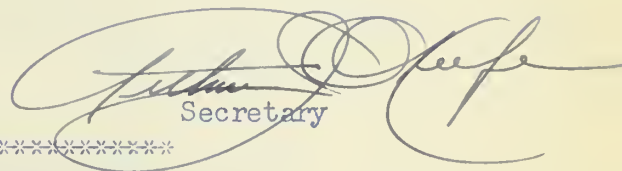
A special meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held in the Mayor's office, City Hall, on Thursday, March 19, for the purpose of discussing the construction of a proposed parking area in the Back Bay Fens.

Present: Commissioner Frank R. Kelley and Associate Commissioners Thomas J. Carty, O. Phillip Snowden and Harry J. Blake. Absent: Associate Commissioner Daniel G. O'Connor.

On motion of Commissioner Carty, seconded by Commissioner Blake, it was unanimously

VOTED: That the Corporation Counsel be requested to draw a bill and file it in the Legislature authorizing the construction or building of a parking area to be located in that part of the Back Bay Fens bounded by Muddy River, Park Drive and Boylston Street.

The meeting was then adjourned.


Secretary

April 2, 1959

A regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at the office of the Commission, 33 Beacon Street, Boston, today, at 10:40 a. m.

Present: Associate Commissioners Daniel G. O'Connor, Thomas J. Carty, O. Phillip Snowden and Harry J. Blake. Absent: Commissioner Frank R. Kelley on account of illness. Secretary Arthur J. O'Keefe served as Chairman in the absence of the Commissioner.

Voted, to dispense with reading of minutes of previous meeting.

Arts Festival--Public Garden

Voted unanimously to grant permission to the Arts Festival Committee to have the use of the Public Garden for the Arts Festival of 1959, for the period June 5 through Sunday, June 21 inclusive.

Permit was granted with the understanding that the Festival Committee will redesign Festival installations so as to cut down to a minimum the length of time necessary for the erection and dismantling of installations and also to minimize the extent of grass areas which the public must use to enjoy the Festival productions. It is also understood that rehabilitation of the Garden areas will start immediately after the close of the Festival.

Fenway Gardens--Parking Area

Mr. Kerr, Chief Legal Assistant in the Law Department, was present to inform the Commission of the present status of the bill to be filed in the Legislature which, if enacted, will permit the construction of a parking lot on the so-called Fenway Gardens area.

Mr. Kerr stated that he has the form of bill on his desk. It has been signed by the Mayor and is now awaiting presentation to the President of the Massachusetts Senate. The delay in presenting it is due to the fact that the President of the Senate wishes to explore every other possible means of supplying a parking area without using the garden area. Mr. Kerr also stated that the Massachusetts District Commission is preparing a plan of suitable space that could be used in the Back Bay section for parking.

The Chief Engineer of the Parks and Recreation Department presented a

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report that he had prepared, showing proposed off-road parking in the Fenway, in an area not connected with the gardens, which he believes could be converted into a parking lot at an approximate cost of \$40,000.00.

Mr. Kerr stated that an area now used by the Art Museum is being considered as a parking area for cars of persons attending ball games.

Mr. Kerr also stated that a four-fifths vote of the Senate is required to admit the legislative bill for a hearing, for the reason that the date for filing bills has long since expired. However, he said that this procedure could be eliminated if the Governor sent a direct message to the Legislature regarding the bill. He stated that there is no further action that can be taken by the Parks & Recreation Commission at this time, that the next move must be made by the President of the Senate.

Commonwealth Avenue--Signs

Voted, to approve the action of the Commissioner in granting a permit to the Metropolitan District Commission to erect four temporary signs on the Mall at Commonwealth Avenue and Gloucester Street, - two signs, 5 feet by 4 inches, warning drivers that Longfellow Bridge is closed to outbound traffic, and two smaller signs 24 inches by 15 inches, pointing directions to Cambridge and Boston. The signs are to remain until repair work on Longfellow Bridge is completed.

Cemetery Division--Welfare Interments

The matter of a reduction in charges for burials of Welfare recipients, when ordered by the Welfare Department, has been before the Commission on previous occasions. A reduction is requested by the Welfare Department because, under existing charges, that Department is in jeopardy of losing state reimbursement in the burial of unsettled persons for the reason that the charges for burial in the City's cemetery exceeds by \$10.00 the charges permitted by law.

After due consideration the Commission

VOTED, That any prior vote of this Commission to the contrary notwithstanding, the payment to be made to the Cemetery Division of the Parks and Recreation Department for a grave for the interment of a deceased person by the Overseers of the Public Welfare shall, effective as of January 1, 1957, be \$20.00.

McConnell Park, Dorchester

The Chief Engineer informed the Commission of the progress being made toward reconstruction of McConnell Park, Dorchester. He stated that the Wes-Julian Construction Company, which used part of this playground for storage purposes during construction of the Southeast Expressway, has agreed that in addition to placing the Field House in satisfactory condition (which has already been done) to further regrade the area, drain it to existing catch basin, and resurface the field with loam and fertilize and seed it.

The Engineer also stated that the Public Works Department of the Commonwealth has under consideration certain plans for restoring most of the playground area damaged by the taking of land for the Southeast Expressway.

Secretary O'Keefe then informed the Commission that the City Auditor has set aside the sum of \$17,000 which, it is hoped, will be increased to \$35,000, for work to be done by the Parks and Recreation Department such as the building of baseball diamonds and a tot play area, the planting of trees, etc., all work to be completed by October 1.

MDC Land Taking in Back Bay Area

The Secretary read a communication from the Metropolitan District Commission dated March 23, 1959, relating to the outright taking of 573,389 square feet of land and a taking of 129,600 square feet by easement, in the Back Bay area, for the new traffic improvement at Riverway and Park Drive, Fenway.

Contracts Awarded--Advertised

4/2/59

The Commission was informed that the following advertised contracts were awarded to the lowest bidders:

- A. Developing Playing Areas and Asphalt Surfacing at Veterans of Foreign Wars Parkway Playground, West Roxbury, Mass.
Contractor: Albert C. Graglia Co., Inc., 15 Stanley Street, Dorchester, Mass. Amt....\$42,752.00
- B. Construction of West Street Plaza, Boston Common, Boston, Mass. Contractor: Sciaba & Co., Inc., 86 Shawmut Avenue, Boston, Mass. Amt....\$79,081.00

Contracts--By Invitation Bid

Invitation bids were received from three contractors for "Spraying of Trees on Parks, Playgrounds and City Streets in the City of Boston". The same low bid was received from two of the bidders and the work was divided between them as follows:

Fred Ralston & Co., Inc., 47 Braintree St., Allston 34, Mass. \$5,500.00
Superior Tree Service, Inc., 15 Littlejohn Street,
Arlington, Mass. \$5,500.00

Building Permit approved. Referred to Parks and Recreation Department by Building Department:

660 Beacon Street, Boston - Application to alter building. New Store front and entrance door, miscellaneous interior changes. Request of Cities Service Oil Company.

School Committee RE Summer Playgrounds

At this point in the meeting two members of the Boston School Committee were admitted to the meeting for the purpose of discussing with the Commission certain matters of interest to the School Committee. The invitation to attend the meeting was extended to all members of the School Committee.

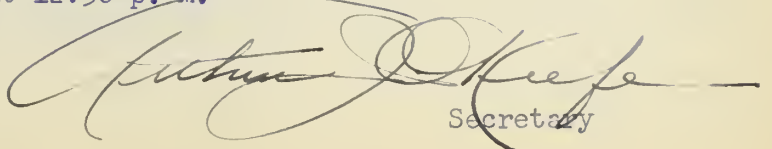
The two members present were Chairman John Regan and Miss Reilly, who stated that they were interested in the operation of the summer recreation program on school yards and particularly in the type of personnel appointed to supervise the children. They stated that several teachers in the Boston School Department, as well as pupils at Teachers College, felt that they should be considered for appointment to summer positions as play leaders.

Director of Recreation Patrick J. Ryan and Administrative Assistant Arthur J. O'Keefe explained in detail the operation of the summer playground program, the cost of operation, and the manner in which personnel is appointed. They also explained that the program as operated by one department is much less expensive than its operation by both School and Park departments.

Mr. O'Keefe stated that he would call to Commissioner Kelley's attention the interest of the School Committee members in the type of personnel appointed to the playground positions and the request that, in the event a sufficient number can not be obtained from Civil Service lists, teachers of the Boston public schools or pupils in Teachers College be considered for appointment.

Mr. Regan and Miss Reilly expressed their appreciation of the attention accorded them and their satisfaction with the method of conducting the summer school yard recreation programs.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:50 p. m.


Secretary

April 29, 1959.

A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held in this office, 33 Beacon Street, today, at 10:30 o'clock a. m.

Present: Chairman Frank R. Kelley and Associate Commissioners Thomas J. Carty, O. Phillip Snowden, Daniel G. O'Connor and Harry J. Blake.

Voted: To accept minutes of previous meeting without reading.

Unfinished business:

(a) Use of Cemetery Trust Funds Income. At the meeting of the Commission on February 26, it was voted to take no action on use of Cemetery Trust Funds income for cemetery maintenance until after the hearing on the department budget before the City Council on March 24.

At today's meeting the Commissioners were informed that all city officials concerned with budget appropriations had agreed that the income from cemetery trust funds shall be used for cemetery maintenance in 1959, in lieu of a budget appropriation usually granted to the Cemetery Division.

It was therefore Voted, That the sum of \$389,491 be allotted from the accumulated income of the cemetery trust funds for maintenance of the Cemetery Division for the year 1959, said amount having been approved by the Mayor for cemetery maintenance purposes for the year.

(b) Cemetery Division--Welfare Burials. The Secretary acquainted the Commissioners with the details of arrangements made with Welfare Department officials, following the vote of April 2, 1959, when the Commission voted to establish a charge of \$20.00 for interment of deceased Welfare recipients.

Matters of Information:

(a) Arts Festival. The Secretary read a communication from the Managing Director of the Arts Festival in which he agrees to all conditions stipulated by the Park Commissioner in permit for use of the Public Garden for the Arts Festival in 1959.

(b) Fenway Parking Site. The Commission was informed that Mr. Kerr reports no further progress in legislation required for conversion of the Fenway garden area into an open-air parking site.

(c) Legislative Bills. The Secretary informed the Commissioners of the details of two legislative bills relating to park areas: (1) No. 2574 relating to the proposed transfer of a park area in South Boston to the Metropolitan District Commission and (2) No. 2723 proposing a change in name of Circuit Drive in Franklin Park

Supplementary Budget.

The Commission voted to approve the action of Commissioner Kelley in submitting a supplementary budget in the amount of \$54,000. This amount, if allowed, will restore the budget of the department to substantially the same amount allowed by the Mayor in his second recommendation to the City Council, although it leaves the department budget about \$700,000 less than the original request.

Building Permits referred to Parks and Recreation Department, by Building Department, for approval:

45 Beacon Street, Boston - Change of occupancy from Boy Scout Headquarters to American Meteorological Society.
Interior changes to be made. Approved.

Contracts

The following contracts were publicly advertised and awarded to the lowest bidder:

1. Furnishing and Planting Trees on Streets and Parkways in Boston, Massachusetts. Awarded to only bidder, Blueview Nurseries, 32 Gaston Street, Roxbury, Mass., for approximate sum of...\$47,550.00
2. Grading and Sanding L Street Bathing Beach, South Boston, Mass. Awarded to lowest bidder, James R. Morgan Company, 232 Manthorne Road, West Roxbury, Mass., for approximate sum of \$ 4,300.00
3. Asphalt Surfacing and Play Area Construction at DePhilipppo Playground, Boston, Massachusetts. Bids opened on Tuesday, April 28, 1959. Awarded to low bidder, Baker & Company, Inc., 3475 Washington Street, Boston, Mass., for approximate sum of \$11,409.50

The following contract was awarded without public advertising, by permission of the Mayor, for the reason that the work required under the contract is of such a professional nature that it does not lend itself to advertising for bids:

1. Sculpture and other Artistic Work in Connection with Fountain and Flag Poles in New Plaza on Boston Common opposite West Street. Awarded to Cascieri & DiBiccari, Inc., 27 Tavern Road, Roxbury, Massachusetts, for the approximate sum of \$55,000.00

Bath Division Report - "A Costly Anachronism"

The Commissioners gave further consideration to the report of the Boston Municipal Research Bureau entitled, "A Costly Anachronism", which relates to the services rendered by the Bath Division of this department and contains detailed recommendations for greatly curtailing or entirely eliminating these services.

The Commissioners also discussed the many editorials that have been appearing in Boston newspapers recently, criticizing the continuance of a service which the Research Bureau's report states is very expensive and is now unnecessary.

The Commissioners then agreed that, in their opinion, the Research Bureau's report and the editorials do not present a true picture of the services rendered to the citizens of Boston by the Bath Division. They make no mention of the fact that the entire appropriation allotted to the Bath Division is not used for public shower baths only, but, instead, a large percentage of it is required for expenses of operating and staffing swimming pools and beaches, during the summer months, in crowded sections of the city, for both children and adults, and that this service alone requires a staff of 200 persons - lifeguards, matrons and laborers.

The Commissioners also expressed the opinion that as Boston was the first city in the country to institute the public bath system, and as residents of Boston have been accustomed to the service for many years, the service ought not be discontinued immediately, without more study and consideration.

Commissioner Kelley then talked with Councillor Joseph C. White, Chairman of the City Council Committee on Public Services and Parks and Recreation. As a result of this talk, Councillor White decided to call a meeting of his committee on Tuesday, May 5, at the City Council Executive Chamber, to which the Commissioners of Parks and Recreation are invited, for the purpose of ascertaining the opinions of the councillors who represent citizens in all sections of the city served by the public baths.

The Commissioners agreed to accept Councillor White's invitation to meet with his committee, before taking any action on the matter of curtailing or closing the public bath service in the city.

The meeting was adjourned at

Secretary

May 13, 1959

A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at this office, 33 Beacon Street, Boston, today, at 10:30 a. m.

Present: Commissioner Frank R. Kelley and Associate Commissioners Thomas J. Carty, O. Phillip Snowden, Daniel G. O'Connor and Harry J. Blake.

Voted, to dispense with reading of minutes of previous meeting.

Public Bath System

The Commission continued the discussion begun in previous meeting, relating to the recommendations contained in a report submitted by the Municipal Research Bureau, entitled "A Costly Anachronism", which recommends the curtailment or discontinuance of services rendered by the Bath Division of the Parks and Recommendations.

The Commissioners then voted unanimously that the recommendations contained in the Municipal Research Bureau's report, "A Costly Anachronism", are not acceptable to the Parks and Recreation Commission and that a report be submitted to His Honor the Mayor explaining the views of the Commissioners on this question.

Contracts

The Commission was informed that the following contracts were publicly advertised and awarded to the lowest bidder in each case:

- (1) Furnishing and Operating Floodlight Equipment on a Rental Bases. Awarded to Lashua Portable Lighting, Inc., 59 1/2 Washington Street, Stoughton, Mass. Amount....\$4,650.00
- (2) Furnishing and Planting Shrubs at Lafayette Mall, Boston Common. Awarded to Blueview Nurseries, 32 Gaston Street, Roxbury, Mass. Amount....\$8,010.00

Building Permits referred to Parks and Recreation Commission, by Building Department, for approval:

- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| 17 Gloucester Street) | Request of American Red Cross Metropolitan |
| 273 Commonwealth Avenue) | Chapter for permission to construct parking spaces between side and rear of these buildings and Public Alley #427, for Red Cross beach wagons |
| | No fees to be paid. Beach wagons for emergency use. |
| | <u>Approved.</u> |

Reappointment

The Commissioners were informed of the reappointment of Daniel G. O'Connor as Associate Park Commissioner for the four-year term ending May 1, 1963.

Orchard Park--Land Taking

The Commissioners were informed that notice was received from the Public Improvement Commission that a small section of Orchard Park, in the Roxbury district, would be required for the relocation and extension of Orchard Park Street. As the section to be taken is very small, there was no objection by the Commission.

Matters of Information

(1) Land Taking--New Tunnel: The Secretary read a communication sent by the Parks and Recreation Commissioner to the Corporation Counsel, in which the Commissioner asks the aid of the Law Department in protecting the rights of the department in land now used as a play area at London and Decatur Streets which may be required for tunnel construction purposes.

(2) Transfer of Park Areas: Chapter 240, Acts of 1959. The Secretary read a legislative bill which, if enacted, will transfer two park areas, now under control of the City of Boston, to the Metropolitan District Commission for recreation purposes. These areas are (a) Land in South Boston bounded by Gardner Way and Farragut Road, and (b) Land in the Brighton district bounded by Beacon Street, Chestnut Hill Avenue, Commonwealth Avenue and Chestnut Hill Reservoir.

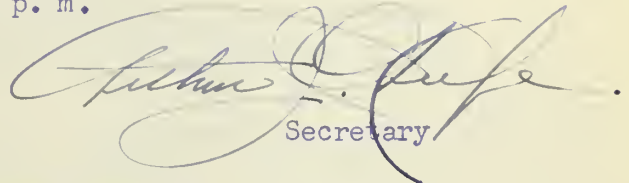
(3) School Department Yards: The Secretary read a letter from the School Committee containing a vote of the Committee, passed on April 28, 1959, transferring supervision and control of playgrounds on school premises to the Parks and Recreation Department for the summer term of 1959.

(4) Lafayette Mall: The Commission was informed that the Metropolitan Transit Authority had granted permission to the Parks and Recreation Department to do necessary construction work on the roof of the subway at the West Street location on Boston Common, in connection with improvements being made to Lafayette Mall.

(5) Fenway Parking Site: The Commission was informed that there has been no further progress on a bill now in Legislative committee which would permit conversion of the gardens area in the Fenway into a parking lot for motor vehicles.

The Commission also was informed of the contents of a letter received by His Honor the Mayor and referred to this department, from Dr. George O. Shattuck of the Harvard Medical School, in which Dr. Shattuck deplored the proposed use of park land for parking facilities and the loss of park lands, in general, for any purpose. The letter was filed for future reference.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:35 p. m.


Secretary

May 27, 1959

A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at the office of the Commission, 33 Beacon Street, Boston, today, at 10:40 o'clock a. m.

Present: Commissioner Frank R. Kelley and Associate Commissioners Daniel G. O'Connor, Thomas J. Carty, O. Phillip Snowden and Harry J. Blake.

Voted, to accept minutes of previous meeting without reading.

REPORT ON BATH DIVISION

For many weeks the Commission studied the report of the Municipal Research Bureau entitled, "A Costly Anachronism", containing criticisms and recommendations relating to the operation of the public bath system in the City of Boston. The report recommends curtailment of the system of public showers, the closing of the Dover Street laundry and the East Boston sewing room, and discontinuance of the towel service.

The Parks and Recreation Commission today voted to send to His Honor the Mayor their reply to the Bureau's report.

In their reply the Commissioners stated, in substance, that it is their

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considered opinion that the time has not yet arrived when the recommendations contained in the Municipal Research Bureau's report, "A Costly Anachronism", can be put into effect.

Copies of the Bureau's report and the Commissioners' reply are on file in the office of the Parks and Recreation Department.

Jefferson Playground - Contract for Improvements

The Chief Engineer discussed with the Commission the failure of the DeVirgilio General Contracting company to comply with the terms of its contract to grade, surface and make improvements at Jefferson Playground, Roxbury, said contract being dated May 19, 1958 and approved by the Mayor of Boston on June 18, 1958.

The Commission unanimously voted to take the necessary steps, through the Law Department, to enforce completion of the contract by the bonding company - Aetna Insurance Company.

McConnell Park, Savin Hill - Use of Park Land

The Commission considered the request of Dorchester Yacht Club to use land, now under control of the Parks and Recreation Department, as an access roadway from Playstead Road to their clubhouse.

The Commission voted that the request be referred to the Law Department for a legal opinion on the right to grant use of park land for the proposed purpose.

Re-naming of Circuit Drive

The Secretary informed the Commission of the details of Legislative House Bill #2723 which, if enacted, will change the name of Circuit Drive, in Franklin Park, to Jewish War Veterans Drive.

The Commission decided to await the official document, signed by the Governor, before taking any action on the re-naming of the drive. However, they believe, if the bill is passed by the Legislature, they have no alternative but must accept the re-naming of Circuit Drive as proposed in the bill.

Contracts: Awarded without advertising but with approval of Finance Commission and the Mayor:

1. "Roping and Staking Playgrounds", awarded to F. C. Dolan & Sons, Inc., 18 Aldworth Street, Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts. Amount...\$4,970.00

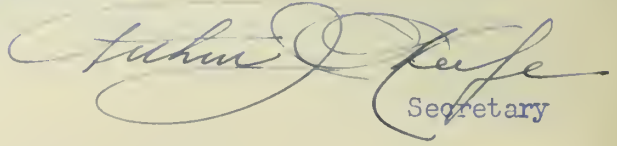
Contracts: Publicly advertised and awarded to low bidder:

1. "Constructing a Play Area at Sumner and Lamson Streets, East Boston, Massachusetts", awarded to F. C. Dolan & Sons, Inc., 18 Aldworth Street, Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts Amount...\$39,271.20

Extension of Time for completion of contract:

1. "Shore Protection and Improvements at Jamaica Pond, West Roxbury," Time extended to June 15, 1959. Amount...\$59,680.00

The meeting was adjourned at 12:10 p. m.


Secretary

July 1, 1959

A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at this office, 33 Beacon Street, Boston, today, at 11.10 o'clock a. m.

Present: Commissioner Frank R. Kelley and Associate Commissioners Thomas J. Carty, O. Phillip Snowden, Daniel G. O'Connor and Harry J. Blake.

Voted, to dispense with reading of minutes of previous meeting.

Land at Commonwealth Ave. &
Chestnut Hill Avenue

The Board again discussed the proposed sale of park land located at the junction of Commonwealth Avenue and Chestnut Hill Avenue, Brighton, which contains 64,000 square feet. This matter has been before the Commission in several previous meetings, the most recent time being the meeting of January 27, 1959 when the Commission voted to request the Law Department to make another appraisal of the land. The appraisal then before the Commission valued the land at \$160,000.

Assistant Corporation Counsel William A. McDermott was present at today's meeting to represent the City's interests. Attorney Jerome L. Rappaport was present with representatives of the parties interested in purchasing the land and constructing thereon a modern apartment house.

Mr. McDermott stated that John C. Kiley, real estate expert, had made another appraisal of the land and had set a valuation on it of \$164,000.

Mr. Rappaport stated that his clients had purchased the adjoining land for \$1.00 per foot and thought that \$1.50 to \$1.75 per foot was a fair value for the park land but were willing to pay the second appraisal price of \$164,000. He stated that the contemplated apartment house will be sixteen stories high but will take up only a relatively small portion of the land area.

After all parties had been heard, the Commission voted that the matter of the sale of the land be laid on the table until the next meeting.

Ross Estate--Forest Hills

The Commission discussed with Assistant Corporation Counsel McDermott the proposed sale of land in Forest Hills known as the Ross Estate, now in custody of the Parks and Recreation Department. This matter was previously before the Commission in meeting of September 25, 1958, at which time the Corporation Counsel was requested to obtain an appraisal of four parcels of land, all part of the Ross Estate, as shown on plan submitted by James W. Haley, Division Engineer of the Survey Division, Public Works Department, dated September 18, 1958.

Mr. McDermott stated that he has obtained an appraisal on these parcels of land but he thought that, before any further action is taken, the Parks and Recreation Commissioners ought to indicate that the land is no longer needed for park purposes.

On motion of Commissioner Snowden, seconded by Commissioner Carty, it was unanimously voted that the four parcels of land known as the Ross Estate are no longer needed for park or playground purposes.

Centre Street--Quinn Way, W. Roxbury

The Commission again discussed the request of Mrs. Mary A. Cronin for purchase of a small parcel of land containing 1282 square feet, located at Centre Street and Quinn Way, West Roxbury and abutting land at 1988-1990 Centre Street owned by Mrs. Cronin. The matter had been before the Commission in meeting of April 20, 1955 and had been laid on the table at that meeting.

On Motion of Commissioner Carty, seconded by Commissioner O'Connor, it was voted that this particular area is no longer needed for park or playground purposes and that the matter be referred to Assistant Corporation Counsel McDermott for further study.

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Mary P. C. Cummings Estate--
Six-Acre Tract of Land

The Commission again considered the request of High Voltage Engineering Corporation for purchase of a tract of land containing about six acres, part of the Mary P. C. Cummings Estate property in the town of Burlington, which can legally be sold.

Mr. John M. McCarthy, Vice President and Comptroller of High Voltage Engineering Corporation, was present to discuss the matter with the Commission. He stated that his company desires this tract of land for future plant expansion.

The six-acre tract is now "locked in" by present property of High Voltage Engineering Corporation with the exception of the South Bedford Street frontage.

In May of 1956 an appraisal was made of this property and a valuation set upon it of \$16,500. Asst. Corporation Counsel McDermott, who has been studying the matter at request of the Commission, stated that High Voltage Engineering Corporation is willing to pay \$21,000 for the land, \$4500 more than the 1956 assessed valuation of the land.

The Commission voted that the matter be laid on the table until the next meeting and that either prior to or on the day of the next meeting, the members of the Commission would visit the site in order to familiarize themselves with the location and its value as a recreation area, before considering any action to dispose of the land.

Charlesgate West
Elpanco, Inc.

The Board considered the request of Attorney Hirsh Freed made on behalf of his clients, Elpanco, Inc., for an extension of time for compliance with the terms of Elpanco's agreement with the Parks and Recreation Commission to cover the walls of the two existing buildings at Charlesgate West with brick veneer, or to construct a third building between these two buildings.

The Commission voted to grant an extension to December 31, 1959, and also to call to Attorney Freed's attention that extensions have been granted on three previous occasions and that it is the hope of the Commission that his clients will comply with the terms of their agreement before the expiration of the present extension.

Boston Common Garage

Mr. William H. Kerr, Chief Legal Assistant in the Law Department, presented to the members of the Commission copies of an order filed with the City Council, by the Mayor, which would convey to the Boston Common Garage Authority such interests in certain lands on Boston Common as said Authority has deemed necessary for the carrying out of Chapter 606 of the Acts of 1958. This order must receive two readings and approval of a majority of the City Council and the approval of the Mayor, after which the assent of the Parks and Recreation Commission is required.

The Commission took no action on the matter, pending approval of the City Council and the Mayor.

The Commission was informed that Commissioner Kelley has granted two permits for preliminary work on the Common, in connection with garage construction, - one permit to Donald J. Reardon for surveys and another to Raymond Concrete Pile Company for soil tests and soundings.

Park Land - Carson and Sydney Sts., Dorchester

During the planning of the Southeast Expressway, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts took by eminent domain a parcel of park land containing about 20,000 square feet, located at Carson and Sydney streets, Dorchester, for highway construction purposes.

The Commission is now in receipt of a letter from a prospective purchaser

of the remaining area of approximately 20,000 square feet. The Chief Engineer stated that this remaining area has no value for park or playground development because of its close proximity to Columbus Park where there is plenty of available park and playground space.

The entire tract of 40,000 square feet was originally acquired by the Real Property Department and subsequently transferred to the Parks and Recreation Department.

On motion of Commissioner Snowden, seconded by Commissioner Blake, the Commission unanimously voted that the remaining area of about 20,000 feet is no longer needed for park or playground purposes and that arrangements be made to transfer it back to the Real Property Department for disposal by that department.

Savin Hill--Dorchester Yacht Club
Request for Land Right-of-Way

The petition of the Dorchester Yacht Club for a right-of-way over a parcel of park land, for use as an access roadway to the Clubhouse, was again brought to the attention of the Commission.

No action on the matter was taken at this meeting.

Arts Festival

The Commission was informed that because of continued inclement weather and upon request of the Arts Festival Committee, Commissioner Kelley granted a week's extension for use of the Public Garden, until June 28, for the Arts Festival exhibition.

Renaming of Circuit Drive

The Commission was informed that the Massachusetts Legislature enacted on May 12, and the Governor signed on May 25, Chapter 306 of the Acts of 1959, reading as follows:

"The road in Franklin Park in the city of Boston now known as Circuit Drive shall hereafter be known and designated as Jewish War Veterans Drive. Suitable markers bearing said designation shall be erected along said road by the City of Boston".

Bath Division Report

The Secretary read communications from Mr. Henry L. Shattuck and from Mr. Maynard L. Harris, president of the Suffolk Savings Bank, criticizing the decision of the Parks and Recreation Commission to take no action on the major recommendations contained in the Municipal Research Bureau's report on the operation of Boston's public baths. The Secretary also reported that a telephone call had been received from the secretary of the Mayor's Civic Progress Committee containing similar criticism.

No action was taken by the Commission.

Building Permits referred to Parks and Recreation Department by Building Department for approval:

- 366 Commonwealth Avenue - Increase occupancy by adding two apartments in existing penthouse as per plan submitted. Request of owners Reigh-Siegel, Inc. Apprvd.
- 362 Commonwealth Avenue - Remove existing stairs at 362-366 Commonwealth Avenue and make a new entrance through 362 Commonwealth Avenue. Request of owners, Reith-Siegel, Inc. Approved.

Building Permits (Cont.)

7/1/59

471 Commonwealth Avenue - Change occupancy of two top floors from four doctors' offices to four apartments, by installing four kitchenettes and four baths. Request of owner Norman Chalitzy. Approved.

Contracts Approved and Awarded to Low Bidders

1. Reconstructing the Play Area at Harrison Avenue, Boston, Mass. Awarded to Twinbrook Construction Corporation, 68 Green Street, Newton, Massachusetts. Amount...\$4,311.50
2. Removal of Dead or Diseased Trees in the City of Boston. Awarded to Fred Ralston & Co., Inc., 47 Braintree Street, Allston, Mass. (only bidder), for the sum of Amount...\$31,080.00
3. Development of Burial Areas at Mt. Hope Cemetery, West Roxbury, Mass., and Evergreen Cemetery, Brighton, Mass. Awarded to F. Gavigan Corp., 75 Prospect Street, Canton, Mass. Amt. \$27,069.52
4. Repairing and Painting Dome Greenhouse and Growing Houses at Franklin Park, West Roxbury, Mass. Awarded to F. C. Dolan & Sons Co., 18 Aldworth Street, Jamaica Plain, Mass. Amt. \$13,941.00

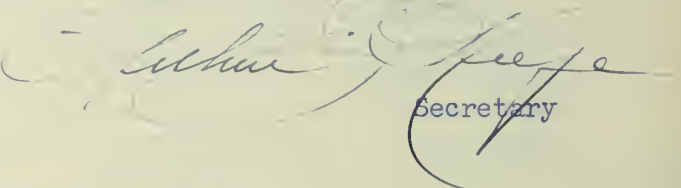
Extension of Time on Contract: Contract for "Shore Protection and Improvement at Jamaica Pond, West Roxbury, Mass." - time for completion extended to July 10, 1959. Contractor: Joseph P. McCabe, Inc., 509 E. First Street, South Boston 27, Massachusetts

Concession: "Installing and Maintaining Weighing Machines in Buildings of Parks and Recreation Department". Agreement renewed for another three-year period beginning July 1, 1959 and terminating on June 30, 1962, with Consumer Services, Inc., 9 Belvidere Street, Boston, at the same annual rental as heretofore, \$350.00.

Summer Recreation Program

The Commission was informed that our summer beach, bath and recreation programs started on June 15 (recreation on June 25) with a total of 550 seasonal employees placed at work.

The meeting was adjourned at 1.00 o'clock p. m.


Secretary

July 21, 1959

A regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at the office of the Commission, 33 Beacon Street, Boston, today at 10:00 A. m.

Present: Commissioner Frank R. Kelley and Associate Commissioners Thomas J. Carty, Daniel G. O'Connor and Harry J. Blake; also Chief Engineer Daniel J. Byrne, Jr., and Administrative Assistant Arthur J. O'Keefe, of the Parks and Recreation Department; and Corporation Counsel William L. Baxter and his chief legal assistant William H. Kerr, of the City Law Department.

Also present were: Mr. Joseph Monahan, Vice Chairman of the Massachusetts Parking Authority, and Mr. John Ferrick, attorney for the Authority; Mr. George J. Gruner, Vice President of John Nuveen & Co., of New York; Mr. Chester W. Cambell, President of The Foundation Company, New York; Mr. A. P. DeVito, Project Coordinator, of Welton Becket and Associates, architects and engineers, New York; also staff reporters of the Boston press.

The general opinion of the Commissioners was, in effect, that they would be interested in seeing completed plans for the garage and a statement from the bankers who are to sell the bonds that they are willing to proceed with the financing of the garage provided that the Commission gives assent to the conveyance of title of certain lands in Boston Common for construction purposes; and also a statement that a performance bond in the full amount of the contract would be provided.

Mr. Cambell, President of The Foundation Company, discussed the plans in detail but said he would not furnish completed plans until such time as he knew that money was available.

Mr. Gruner, of John Nuveen & Company, indicated that until such time as construction plans were completed and the assent to the conveyance of the land had been approved by the Commissioners and by the City Council, his company would not attempt to sell the bonds.

Mr. Ferrick and Mr. Monahan, of the Garage Authority, are interested in obtaining early assent to the conveyance. However, on question by Commissioner Kelley they did admit that the Feasibility Report being prepared by DeLeuw, Cather & Company has only been completed in one phase and that three more sections are yet to be completed.

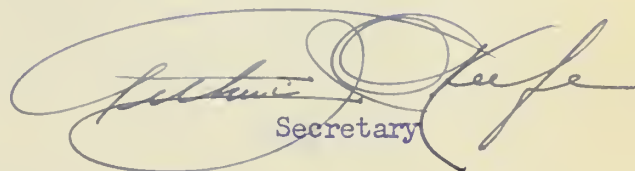
Commissioner O'Connor stated that this Commission is responsible to the citizens of Boston and will be answerable to the City Council and the Mayor, and therefore he firmly believes that plans and financing of a substantial nature should in some way be presented to the Commission before assent is given to the conveyance. This seemed to be the opinion of all the commissioners.

Mr. Baxter and Mr. Kerr spoke briefly on legal complications but did not at this time present anything definite to the Commission on which they might act.

After consultation among the Commissioners it was agreed that the Garage Authority be asked to invite a representative of DeLeuw, Cather & Company to the next meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission, so that the Parks and Recreation Commission might understand the feasibility of the construction of the garage.

Because a definite opinion on the proposed assent to conveyance could not be reached at this meeting, it was unanimously voted by the Commission to adjourn the meeting until Thursday, July 23, at 10 o'clock a. m.

Meeting adjourned at 1:20 p. m.


Secretary

July 23, 1959

The meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission which was adjourned at 1:20 p. m., on July 21, 1959, was reconvened today at 10 o'clock a. m.

The purpose of this meeting was the desire of the Parks and Recreation Commission to give all interested persons an opportunity to discuss the proposed conveyance to the Massachusetts Parking Authority of certain interests in lands constituting Boston Common which are required by the Authority for use in constructing an underground garage for motor vehicles. (Authority to make such conveyance is granted to the Parks and Recreation Commission of the City of Boston under Chapter 606 of the Acts of 1958).

Present to represent the Parks and Recreation Commission were: Commissioner Frank R. Kelley and Associate Commissioners Thomas J. Carty, Daniel G. O'Connor, O. Phillip Snowden, and Harry J. Blake; also Chief Engineer Daniel J. Byrne, Jr., and Administrative Assistant Arthur J. O'Keefe; Corporation Counsel William L. Baxter and his chief legal assistant William H. Kerr.

Present to represent the Massachusetts Parking Authority were: Mr. Joseph Monahan, Vice Chairman of the Authority, and John Ferrick, its attorney; Mr. Edgar Copell and Mr. Arthur Baker of De Leuw, Cather & Company, engineers; Mr. John Gruner, Vice President of John Noveen Company of New York, who will finance the garage construction, and Mr. John Cagle, general attorney for the company; and Mr. Chester Cambell, president of The Foundation Company, of New York.

Present to represent citizens and associations of the Back Bay area were: Representatives John Frenning and William Otis of Ward 5, and former Representative James Bayley of Ward 5; also Attorney Charles McCarthy, Secretary of the Boston Common Society; Stanley Parker, architect; Frederick Roberts, President of the Back Bay Association; Miss Della Marie Coyle, Secretary of the Back Bay Neighborhood Association; Attorney Richard Waite; Attorney Douglas Lawson; and Charles W. Eliot, engineer and architect.

Also present were staff reporters from Boston newspapers.

Commissioner Kelley presided. He opened the meeting by giving a general statement of the purpose of the meeting and said that he wished all interested persons to have an opportunity to state their views on the proposed conveyance, to inspect such construction plans as are now available, and to hear a "Feasibility Report" which the Commission had requested of De Leuw, Cather & Company, the engineers employed by the Mass. Parking Authority.

Upon request of the Commissioner, Mr. Joseph Monahan, Vice Chairman of the Parking Authority, submitted a preliminary report showing the garage potential of 1600 car spaces for a location at the Boylston Street end of Charles Street to 2000 spaces at the Beacon Street end, with a probable increase in demand of 50% over the years.

Mr. Copell, of De Leuw, Cather & Company, stated that the feasibility report is not yet complete but that an inventory has been made of parking facilities both on-street and off-street in the vicinity of the Common. He stated that the design of the garage, its cost, probable income, etc., has not yet been determined. He also stated that present preliminary plans do not provide entrance and exits on the Tremont Street side of Boston Common.

Mr. John Gruner, Vice President of John Noveen Company of New York, which will finance the garage, then spoke. He stated that the feasibility report can not be completed in its final form until money is actually on hand to construct the garage, that financing of this magnitude and scope can not be completed until engineers, designers, and all others engaged in planning the garage have completed their work, and that it is only when these things have been done that the feasibility combination can be determined.

Mr. Gruner also gave a history of his company and its record of financing public projects for sixty years. He stated that the company knows the requirements of all its projects and believes in them before financing them and before selling bonds to its clients. He also said that the company had followed the history of the Boston garage project for many years, believes it is essential and necessary for the City of Boston to have this facility and that it is feasible, not only to maintain the present economy of Boston but to restore it to the level

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where it properly belongs. He said that the best demonstration of the feasibility of any project is that a banker will give a certified check to the promoter of the project. However, he said, that basically the banker must start with one thing--there must be title to a piece of ground, whether for turnpike or garage--you have to have some place on which to build.

Mr. Gruner also stated that conveyance of title to Boston Common is only for the convenience and necessity of forming a basis on which bonds may be sold and that eventually title would be returned to the city. He said his company respects its obligations to its clients and would sell only enough bonds to finance a definite number of car spaces and that the company can not morally or legally sell more bonds than are needed. He said that a cost figure of fifteen million dollars is only an estimate and not a true figure.

Mr. Cambell, President of The Foundation Company, talked on proposed types of construction which would allow 1600 car spaces at the Boylston end of Charles Street and 2000 spaces at the Beacon Street end. He stated that construction work would not come too close to the cemetery or the bandstand or the soldiers monument on the Common, and that there would be a 90-foot setback from Beacon and Charles Street in order to save five trees, and that there will be nothing above the Common except some 8-inch curbs to keep water from running back into the structure, and also that there will be no ventilating shafts above ground. He stated that, when the job is finished, the Common will be restored exactly as it is now with the exception that, if present plans are followed there would be a loss of a small piece of the ball field area and a small section of lawn at either end of the Common.

Mr. Stanley Parker, architect, asked if there would be a grade crossing on MacArthur Mall.

Mr. Cambell replied that there will be a small walk around the opening so that anyone who did not want to cross in traffic could go around the opening.

(Here followed a long discussion and inspection of plans, with
(discussion principally between Mr. Parker and Mr. Cambell)

Mr. Parker suggested that as an alternative location, the entrance and exit be placed in the center of MacArthur Mall instead of at the two ends.

Mr. Cambell said that such a location would be much more desirable but that it would necessitate the removal of five trees. He said a center entrance and exit would provide an extra 10,000 feet of space and allow better interior arrangements but that such construction would take about a 12-foot-width of grass space in Charles Street.

Then followed questions by Mr. Douglas Lawson, Mr. Charles W. Eliot, Mr. Charles C. McCarthy, Mr. Fred M. Roberts, Rep. William F. Otis, Rep. Frenning and former Representative Bayley and others, relating to possible damage to nearby property by displacement of water during garage construction, the possibility of increased traffic congestion in Charles Street at certain hours of the day when large numbers of cars leave the underground garage, the financial risk if the garage operation is a failure, etc.

Mr. Gruner, Mr. Cambell and others assured the questioners that all these matters had been studied and that there will be no water damage to property, that traffic engineers have studied the traffic problems and believe they can all be solved, and that the bankers believe the project is financially sound.

Mr. Charles W. Eliot then stated that he wished to call to the attention of the members of the Commission that the action (conveyance) which they are being asked to take is definitely premature. He said the Commission does not have a feasibility report and does not have definite assurance that the project is going to be financed. He said the Commission should not give its approval until they have in their hands and on the table a complete feasibility report and complete working drawings for the project, and complete financial assurance from whoever is going to finance it; and until all these things are in front of the Commission and before the people of Boston he appeals to the Commission, "as the custodian of our parks and custodian of our sacred Common, the oldest open space in the United States", to insist on full disclosure of what is proposed, before giving assent to conveyance. He stated that the Commission should see to it that all of the facts and all of the problems are in their hands before they act, and he appealed to them not to act before they have these things.

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All persons present having had an opportunity to speak, the public part of the meeting ended at this point.

The Commissioners then voted unanimously, on motion of Commissioner Snowden, seconded by Commissioner Carty, to hold an executive session. All visitors left the meeting room.

During the executive session the Commission discussed all points of information presented during the public meeting and also discussed certain legal phases of the proposed conveyance with Corporation Counsel William L. Baxter and his assistant Mr. William H. Kerr.

It was then unanimously

VOTED: That the request of the Massachusetts Parking Authority for this Commission's assent to the conveyance to said Authority under Chapter 606 of the Acts of 1958 of certain interests in the lands constituting Boston Common be laid on the table until said Authority amends its resolution of June 29, 1959 deeming such interests necessary so as to limit convenient approaches for ingress and egress of motor vehicles to approaches only from Charles Street; and further voted that upon receipt of notice from said Authority of such amendment the matter be taken from the table for the limited purpose of adopting a vote of intent to assent to such conveyance upon the issuance of revenue bonds by said Authority and the consideration by this Commission of the feasibility report, cost estimates, plans and other data available at such time.

**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:53 p. m.


Secretary

September 10, 1959

A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at the office of the Commission, 33 Beacon Street, Boston, today at 11:05 o'clock a. m.

Present: Commissioner Frank R. Kelley and Associate Commissioners Thomas J. Carty, O. Phillip Snowden and Harry J. Blake. Absent: Associate Commissioner Daniel G. O'Connor.

Voted, to accept minutes of previous meeting without reading.

Playground Dedication

Voted, to approve the naming of the playground at Hyde Park Avenue and East Glenwood Avenue in honor of Pvt. Joseph Amatucci.

Castle Island

(1) Voted, to accept a renewal of a Revocable License, from the Commander of First Coast Guard District, for use and occupancy for public park purposes of a certain parcel of land with improvements thereon being a portion of the former Fort Independence Military Reservation, Castle Island, now under control and jurisdiction of the United States Coast Guard. Renewal is for a period not to exceed five years beginning August 1, 1959.

(2) Attention of Commission was called to a notice from the J. F. White Contracting Company and Travelers Indemnity Company that work has been completed under permit from Parks and Recreation Department dated September 30, 1958 which allowed the White Company to pass and repass with vehicles and equipment over the roadways on Castle Island during the period of time required by the company to complete work under its contract with the Metropolitan District Commission for Pleasure Bay Improvements. Chief Engineer Byrne reports that the roadways have been restored to satisfactory condition and bonding company has been notified that bond may be cancelled.

McConnell Park Playground

The Commission was informed that the Wes-Julian Construction Company terminated its occupancy of part of McConnell Park Playground for its field office and storage facilities, upon completion of the Southeast Expressway. Chief Engineer Byrne reported that Wes-Julian has restored the surface of the playground to satisfactory condition and that a contract has now been awarded by the Parks and Recreation Department for rehabilitation of the playground, in the sum of \$35,000, and that the playground will contain a large baseball diamond, a smaller diamond, and a children's recreation area.

Boston Common Underground Garage

The Commission was officially informed that the Massachusetts Parking Authority took by eminent domain a portion of Boston Common required for underground garage construction, on July 30, 1959; also, that on August 14, 1959, a group of ten taxpayers filed suit to restrain the Parking Authority from starting construction of the garage for the reason that these citizens believe the land-taking was illegal.

In August, Secretary Arthur J. O'Keefe and Engineer Daniel J. Byrne appeared in court at the hearing of the taxpayers' suit. They reported that, by agreement of counsel, the matter was referred to the Supreme Court for hearing at a later date.

Boston Arts Festival--Public Garden

The Secretary read a letter dated July 30, 1959, from Commissioner Kelley to Mr. Nelson Aldrich, complaining of the unsatisfactory condition of the Public Garden after its use for the Arts Festival in June of this year. Mr. Aldrich's reply was also read, in which he states that while they regret it, there is little more the Festival Committee can do toward restoring the grounds of the Garden for the reason that the Committee has no more funds to expend for the purpose.

Jamaicaway Road Construction

9/10/59

Commissioner Kelley and Chief Engineer Byrne presented to the Commission a plan showing a new double-barrelled roadway to be constructed through the Jamaicaway from Huntington Avenue Overpass to the area beyond Murray Circle.

Present at this meeting to discuss the proposed roadway were Chief Engineer Fink of the Metropolitan District Commission, which will construct the road, and a group representing Highway Engineers, Inc., who are drawing the plans. Mr. Fink informed the Commission that nothing will be done in the construction of the road that will not meet with the approval of the Boston Parks and Recreation Commission.

A set of plans, the third revised one, was presented to the Commissioners by the Metropolitan District Commission group for inspection. After viewing the plans and discussing the proposed construction, the Parks and Recreation

VOTED: That the general layout of the plan entitled "Metropolitan District Commission, Arborway, Jamaicaway, Riverway, and improved study by Highway Engineers, Inc., dated September 9, 1959 and indicated as Progress Print-Scheme #3", and the accompanying sketches be approved with the understanding that final approval be withheld until completed plans are submitted.

Aquarium Site, South Boston, Chestnut Hill Site, Brighton

Chief Engineer Fink, of the Metropolitan District Commission, reported that plans are being formulated for the development of these two areas for recreation purposes, as authorized under Chapter 240 of the Legislative Acts, and that said plans will be presented to the Boston Parks and Recreation Commission at an early date for approval.

Land on Harbor View Street, Dorchester

The Commission again considered the proposed transfer of a parcel of unused school land to the Parks and Recreation Department. The land is located at the corner of Harbor View Street and Dorchester Avenue, the site of the former Cora L. Etheridge School.

A letter was read to the Commission, from the Secretary of the School Committee, stating that private parties who were interested in purchasing the land had discontinued negotiations and that the land is available for transfer to the Parks and Recreation Department if it is so desired.

The Commission voted to inform the School Committee that if the School Committee votes to transfer the land to the Parks and Recreation Commission, the Commission will be pleased to accept it.

Land on Bruce Street, West Roxbury

A plot of land containing 8/10 of an acre, on Bruce Street, West Roxbury, was acquired by the Parks and Recreation Department in 1945, from the Board of Real Estate Commissioners with the approval of the City Council and the Mayor, for recreation purposes. The land is still undeveloped as play facilities are not required at this location.

It was therefore voted that the land be transferred back to the Real Property Department.

Cummings Estate, Woburn

The Commission agreed that a date must be fixed for a visit to the plot of land, part of the Cummings Estate, which High Voltage Corporation desires to purchase. It was agreed that an early date will be set.

Malloch's Wharf, Dorchester

9/10/59

The Commission was informed that the City Council and the Mayor approved the sale of City of Boston land known as Malloch's Wharf, Dorchester, on July 22, 1959, to Bay State Boat Company for the sum of \$4,000.00.

Bath Division Report

The Commission was informed that the Boston Finance Commission is now engaged in reviewing the report of the Municipal Research Bureau on the maintenance and operation of the Boston public bath system. Investigators from the Finance Commission have been visiting the various baths and the Parks and Recreation Department office has given them complete financial reports similar to those previously given to the Municipal Research Bureau.

Easement to Edison Company
Chestnut Hill Avenue Park Land

The Commission considered a request of the Boston Edison Company for a perpetual right and easement over park land to the proposed site of an Edison Company station at Chestnut Hill Avenue and Ledgemere Road, Brighton. The Edison Company requires the easement for the purpose of entering the proposed station with underground conduits and cables.

Voted, that the request be laid on the table until a later meeting and, in the meantime, to request an opinion from the Law Department on the legality of awarding such a permit.

Orchard Park Street--Improvements

At the Commission meeting of May 13, the Commission offered no objection to the taking of a small section of Orchard Park, in the Roxbury district, required by the Public Improvement Commission for the relocation and extension of Orchard Park Street. The Public Improvement Commission now reports that the following improvements will be made:

The discontinuance of portions of Orchard Park Street, Roxbury, at the intersection of Ambrose Street and on the easterly side approximately 180 feet south of Ambrose Street.

The relocation and extension of Orchard Park Street, Roxbury, from a point approximately 180 feet south of Ambrose Street to Eustis Street.

The discontinuance of a portion of Ambrose Street, Roxbury, at the intersection of Orchard Park Street.

Building Permits referred to Parks and Recreation Department by the Building Department for approval: All were approved.

165 Park Drive: Addition of one story above present construction. Request of Holy Trinity Russian Orthodox Catholic Church of Boston, Inc.

12 Arlington St. Change occupancy from day school and convent to convent only. Request of Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Boston.

362 Commonwealth Ave.: Cut openings in party wall, install necessary
366 Commonwealth Ave.: fire doors. Create one apartment in existing penthouse. Cut through fire wall to 362 Commonwealth Avenue, install fire door. Request of Reith-Seigal Inc.

512 Commonwealth Ave.: Change occupancy of building from doctors' offices to doctors' offices and store. Erect new front for store. Request of 520 Commonwealth Avenue Real Estate Trust.

9/10/59

Girls' High School Site, W. Newton St.

The Commission considered the acceptance from the School Department of the land which was formerly the site of the Girls' High School, on West Newton Street, for future development as a playground.

Voted: That the site be accepted provided that the sum of \$50,000 be made available to the Parks and Recreation Department for demolition of the school building which now occupies the site of land.

Contracts Awarded. The following advertised contracts were awarded to the low bidder in each case:

1. Completion of Grading, Surfacing and Improvements at Jefferson Playground, Rosbury, Mass. Contractor: J. A. Singarella Co., 15 Bay Street, Dorchester, Massachusetts. Amount....\$14,195.00
2. Playground Improvements at McConnell Park, Dorchester, Mass. Contractor: Wogan Lawn Service of Manchester, Inc., Elm Street, Manchester, Massachusetts. Amount... \$29,097.35
3. Roofing and Metal Work at the Gymnasium Building, Paris St., E. Boston, Mass. Contractor: John J. Hourihan, 27 Dixwell Street, Roxbury, Mass. Amount....\$15,723.00
4. Repairs and Alterations to Steam Heating Boiler at L Street Bath House, South Boston, Mass. Contractor: Seltzer & Co., Inc., 125 Harvard Street, Allston, Massachusetts. Amount....\$ 3,980.00

Extension of Time on Contracts.

1. Developing Playing Areas and Asphalt Surfacing at Veterans of Foreign Wars Parkway Playground, West Roxbury, Mass. Time extended to September 1, 1959. Contractor: Albert C. Graglia Co., Inc., 15 Stanley Street, Dorchester. Amount....\$42,752.00
2. Asphalt Surfacing and Play Area Construction at DeFelippo Playground, Boston, Mass. Contractor: Baker & Co., Inc., 3475 Washington Street, Boston, Mass. Time extended to September 1, 1959. Amount....\$11,409.50
3. Repairing and Painting Dome Greenhouse and Growing Houses at Franklin Park, West Roxbury, Mass. Contractor: F. C. Dolan & Sons, Inc., 18 Aldworth Street, Jamaica Plain, Mass. Time extended to October 15, 1959. Amount....\$13,941.00

The meeting was adjourned at

1:15 PM


Secretary

October 22, 1959

A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at the Commission office, 33 Beacon Street, Boston, today at 10:30 o'clock a. m.

Present: Commissioner Frank R. Kelley and Associate Commissioners Daniel G. O'Connor, Thomas J. Carty and Harry J. Blake. Absent: O. Phillip Snowden.

Voted: To dispense with reading of minutes of previous meeting.

Playground, VFW Parkway

The Commission was informed that notice has been received from the City Clerk stating that a Council Order was approved by the Council and the Mayor as of September 17, providing an appropriation of \$75,000 for erection of a field house on the new playground at Russett Road and Weld Street, West Roxbury. The money was transferred from the account, "Sales of City Property". Thomas P. McDonough, architect, has been engaged to submit plans for the building.

Chapter 564, Acts of 1959

Notice has been received that Chapter 564 of the Acts of 1959 was approved by the Legislature on September 8, 1959, authorizing and directing the Metropolitan District Commission to acquire certain land in the City of Boston for recreational purposes. The land referred to is located in the vicinity of the Arnold Arboretum, on South and Bussey Streets, and is to be developed as a recreational area. The land is owned by Harvard University.

Chapter 88, Resolves of 1959

Chapter 88 of the Resolves of 1959 provides for an investigation and study by the Metropolitan District Commission relative to certain improvements in the Metropolitan District Area.

Included in this Chapter 88 are several sections inside the City of Boston, one of them being the William Garvey Playground, in the Neponset district, now under permanent custody of the Parks and Recreation Department, and another section which includes certain lands in the area of Tenen Beach which the City of Boston currently holds in fee although the Metropolitan District Commission has temporary custody.

The Chapter further requests that the Metropolitan District Commission survey the possibility of constructing an indoor skating rink at Cuttillo Playground in the North End District. This playground is also under custody of the Boston Parks and Recreation Department.

Another request is for the assigning of River Street from Washington Street, Dorchester, to Mattapan Square, to the Metropolitan District Commission. This area is currently under the Public Works Department of the city.

Chapter 627, Acts of 1957

The Secretary informed the Commission that Chapter 627 of the Acts of 1957 which reads, "An Act Authorizing and Directing the Metropolitan District Commission to Construct, Enlarge and Improve its Recreational Facilities", had been filed in the Legislature and enacted into law without knowledge of the Parks and Recreation Department, although the filing of the bill was known to the City Law Department.

The matter was called to the attention of the Parks and Recreation Department when the Metropolitan District Commission submitted plans for the taking of park and playground property on Green and Lamartine Streets, Jamaica Plain. A protest against this taking was addressed to Commissioner Maloney of the MDC on October 13, 1959, by Commissioner Kelley.

Section 3 of Chapter 627 reads as follows:

"The metropolitan district commission, acting so far as may be in consultation with the proper local boards, may, on behalf

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of the Commonwealth, take by eminent domain under chapter seventy-nine of the General Laws, in fee or otherwise, or acquire by purchase, gift or devise, such public or private lands, water rights, rights of way, easements or other interests in land as it may deem necessary or desirable for carrying out the provisions of this act; provided, that nothing in this act shall be construed to limit existing rights of any city or town in relation to water supply purposes, or in any way obstruct such rights.

VOTED: That the Parks and Recreation Commission file a request in the 1960 session of the Legislature for amendment to Section 3 of Chapter 627 of the Acts of 1957, by adding a clause which will make it mandatory on the Metropolitan District Commission to obtain unanimous approval of the Parks and Recreation Commission of the City of Boston before taking by eminent domain or otherwise any park or playground land under jurisdiction of said Parks and Recreation Commission of the City of Boston.

Interchange of School and Park Lands

Chapter 536, Acts of 1959 - "An Act Authorizing the City of Boston to interchange the Use of Certain Playground and School Land in the Roxbury District of said City".

Section 3, of Chapter 536 of the Acts of 1959, reads as follows:

"This act shall take full effect upon its acceptance by vote of the school committee of said city and, after recommendation of the parks and recreation commission of said city, by vote of the city council of said city, subject to the provisions of its charter, but not otherwise."

Under date of September 24, 1959, the School Committee, on roll call, unanimously voted to pass an order accepting Chapter 536 of the Acts of 1959, pertaining to the acquisition of a site for a new Lowell School.

The Act permits the conveyance by the Parks and Recreation Department of a portion of Holland Playground to the School Department for use as the site of the proposed new Lowell School, and the conveyance by the School Department to the Parks and Recreation Department of the site of the existing Lowell School building.

The Parks and Recreation Commission therefore

VOTED: That the acceptance by the Mayor and City Council of Chapter 536 of the Acts of 1959 entitled "An Act Authorizing the City of Boston to Interchange the Use of Certain Playground and School Lands in the Roxbury District of Said City" be, and the same hereby is, recommended.

Arts Festival--Public Garden

In connection with a complaint from Commissioner Kelley to the Arts Festival Committee concerning the unsatisfactory condition of the Public Garden grounds following the use of the grounds for the Arts Festival in June of 1959, the Festival Committee reports that they have engaged Mr. Henry Buhle, former superintendent of horticulture in this department, as advisor and consultant in the care of the Public Garden grounds before and after their use for any future Festival exhibits.

Naming of New Playground on VFW Parkway

VOTED: On motion of Commissioner Snowden, seconded by Commissioner Blake, that the Commission go on record as favoring the naming of the new playground on Veterans of Foreign Wars Parkway at Bruce and Weld Streets, West Roxbury, in honor of Thomas J. Hynes, veteran of World War 1.

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Contracts Awarded - Advertised and awarded to low bidder:

1. Asphalt Surfacing of Roadways in Arnold Arboretum, West Roxbury, Mass. Awarded to Old Colony Construction Co. of Quincy, Vernon Street, Quincy, Massachusetts. Amount\$11,830.50
2. Subsoiling and Concrete Liners at Mt. Hope Cemetery, West Roxbury, Massachusetts. Awarded to Great Northern Constructors, Inc., 24 Walnut Street, Malden, Massachusetts. Amount \$10,936.00
3. Resodding and Seeding of Tees and Fairways at George Wright Golf Course, Hyde Park, Massachusetts. Awarded to Transit Seeding Company, 139 Providence Street, Hyde Park, Massachusetts. Amount \$10,350.00

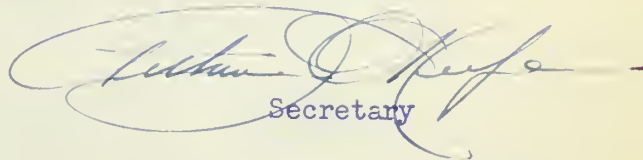
Contract Awarded - Unadvertised

1. Architectural Services for the Preparation of Plans and Specifications for Proposed New Field House and Locker Building at the Veterans of Foreign Wars Parkway Playground, West Roxbury, Mass. Awarded to Thomas P. McDonough, 140 Boylston Street, Boston, Massachusetts. Amount..... \$ 5,200.00

Extension of Time on Contract

Removal of Dead or Diseased Trees in the City of Boston. Contractor: Fred Ralston & Company, Inc., 47 Braintree Street, Allston, Mass. Time for completion extended to December 1, 1959.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p. m.


Secretary

November 9, 1959

A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Department was held at this office, 33 Beacon Street, Boston, today, at 10:30 o'clock a. m.

Present: Commissioner Frank R. Kelley and Associate Commissioners Thomas J. Carty, O. Phillip Snowden, Daniel G. O'Connor and Harry J. Blake.

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted without reading.

Sculpture Designs for Fountain,
Boston Common

Commissioner Kelley informed the Commission that much research and study had been done by members of the department and also by Mr. Kerr from the Law Department. Visits were made to Fogg Museum at Harvard and to the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, and to the Boston Public Library, for the purpose of studying sculptured art before making a selection of a design for the new fountain to be erected on Boston Common near West Street.

Mr. Cascieri of the firm of Cascieri and diBiccari was present at this meeting and submitted several sketches depicting New England themes which he thought might be suitable for fountain and plaza development.

The Commission tentatively decided that the seals of the six New England states should be shown on the stone foundation at the base of the flagpole and that suitable statuary be placed on each of the three pedestals which will depict Religion, Industry and Learning, all to allude to the history of New England. The shaft upon which the statuary will rest may be more or less modernistic in character.

Mr. Cascieri agreed to develop more sketches and submit them for study.

West End Play Areas - Sale Of

11/9/59

The Commission considered the request of the Boston Redevelopment Authority for purchase of two lots of land owned by the Parks and Recreation Department, one located on Poplar Street containing 5,893 square feet and known on taking plan as parcel 156-7, and the other located on Wall Street containing 3,697 square feet and known on taking plan as parcel 166-13. The Authority offered \$11,800 for the Poplar Street lot and \$7,800 for the Wall Street lot. Both lots are needed in the West End redevelopment project.

On motion of Commissioner Carty, seconded by Commissioner Snowden, it was voted to accept the offer of the Boston Redevelopment Authority to pay to the City of Boston the total sum of \$11,800 for the two lots above described.

Cuttillo Park

The Commission voted to offer no objection to the Metropolitan District Commission's plans to construct an indoor skating rink at Cuttillo Park in the North End district, which the MDC is authorized to do under Chapter 88 of the Resolves of 1959 subject to assent by the proper city authorities.

Land Adjacent to Fairview Cemetery
Drinan Property

The purchase of the so-called Drinan Property, located at the entrance to Fairview Cemetery, was again considered by the Commission. It had previously been before the Commission on July 18, 1956 and on September 10, 1957. On February 27, 1956, Dr. Francis W. Drinan, speaking for the owners, offered the property for the sum of \$25,000.00. The Law Department was requested to make an appraisal of the land on May 11, 1956, but as of the present time no appraisal has been received by the Parks & Recreation Department.

Information has now been received from James W. Haley, Division Engineer of the Public Improvement Commission, stating that the property is to be subdivided into house lots and developed by private interests.

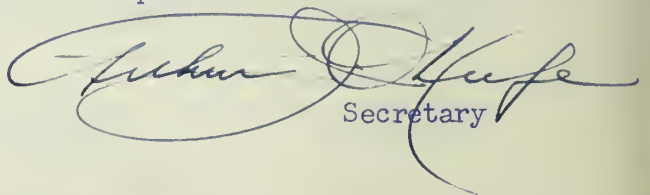
On motion of Commissioner O'Connor, seconded by Commissioner Blake, it was voted that a communication be addressed to James W. Haley, Division Engineer of the Public Works Survey Division, requesting that a taking be made of the Drinan property at the entrance to Fairview Cemetery, Hyde Park. It was also voted that a request be made upon the City Auditor to set aside sufficient funds to pay for the land taking.

Contracts Awarded - Publicly Advertised

Furnishing and Erecting Christmas Trees at Various Locations in the City of Boston. Contractor: Blueview Nurseries, 32 Gaston Street, Roxbury, Massachusetts. Amount.....\$ 5,660.00

Furnishing Attendants and Maintenance Service at the Convenience Stations on Boston Common. Contractor: American Coin Lock Co., Inc., Pawtucket, Rhode Island. Amount.....\$ 5,870.00

The meeting was adjourned at 1:20 o'clock p. m.


Secretary

December 1, 1959

A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at the office of the Commission, 33 Beacon Street, Boston, today at 11 o'clock a. m.

Present: Commissioner Frank R. Kelley and Associate Commissioners Daniel G. O'Connor, Thomas J. Carty, O. Phillip Snowden and Harry J. Blake, and Daniel J. Byrne, Chief Engineer of the department.

The minutes of the last meeting were accepted without reading.

Sculpture Designs for New Fountain

Commissioner Kelley informed the Commission members that new models of the statuary intended for ornamentation of the fountain on Lafayette Mall, Boston Common, are now completed and ready for inspection at the studios of the sculptors, Cascieri and diBicarri. The Commissioner said the Mayor is pleased with these models but that the Art Commission is not ready to accept them as yet.

The members of the Parks and Recreation Commission agreed to visit the sculptors' studios to view the statuary models at the close of today's meeting.

Commonwealth Avenue Signs

Commissioner Kelley talked about several signs on Commonwealth Avenue about which Mrs. Miller and other Back Bay residents have complained. The basis for the complaints is that the residents believe the signs are a violation of the ordinance relative to restrictions on park frontages which governs the erection of "structures" within one hundred feet of a parkway in the City of Boston.

The owners of the signs have refused to comply with this department's instructions to have them removed.

Chief Engineer Byrne stated that he thought there might now be a different interpretation of the word "structure" and that a sign erected on the lawn in front of a building might not be considered a structure in the sense that it is intended in the ordinance.

No action was taken.

Concurrence in MDC Land Sale

VOTED, to concur with the Metropolitan District Commission in its sale of three parcels of land in the Orient Heights Beach section of East Boston, to purchasers Mullen, Nutile and McGunigle and known as parcels 1, 2 and 3, on plan entitled "Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Metropolitan District Commission, Parks Division, Orient Heights Beach, East Boston, Plan of Conveyance, *** September 30, 1959....being Plan Accession Number 38236-V.T."

Contracts Awarded (Publicly Advertised). The Commission members were informed that the following contracts were publicly advertised and awarded:

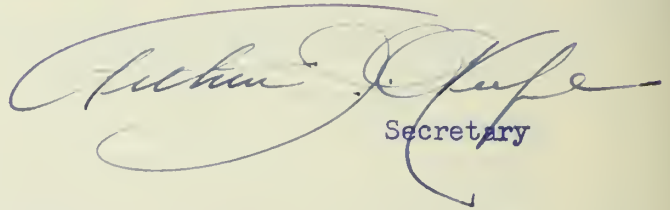
1. Furnishing Attendants and Maintenance Service at the Convenience Stations on Boston Common. Contract awarded to only bidder, American Coin Lock Co., Inc., Pawtucket, Rhode Island, for the sum of \$5,870.00 to be paid by the city, - and proceeds of coin locks to be retained by contractor.
2. Furnishing and Erecting Christmas Trees at Various Locations in the City of Boston, Mass. Contract awarded to second bidder, Blueview Nurseries, 32 Gaston Street, Roxbury, Mass., for reason that first bidder was unable to comply with contract specifications. Amount....\$5,660.00

12/1/59

Building Permits referred to Parks and Recreation Department by Building Department:

12 Arlington Street, Boston - Amend plans for alteration of building:
"Install elevator shaft". Request of R. C. Archbishop
of Boston. Approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 a. m.


Secretary

December 10, 1959

A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at this office, 33 Beacon Street, Boston, today, at 9:30 o'clock a. m.

Present: Commissioner Frank R. Kelley and Associate Commissioners Daniel G. O'Connor, Thomas J. Carty, and O. Phillip Snowden. Absent: Associate Commissioner Harry G. Blake.

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted without reading.

Meeting at Sculptors' Studios

Before taking up the regular business of this meeting, the members of the Park Commission and the Art Commission, His Honor Mayor John B. Hynes, and Mr. Sidney Shurcliff, architect, visited the studios of Cascieri & diBicarri where they viewed three models of statuary representing Religion, Learning and Industry, which are to be placed on Parkman Plaza, Boston Common. These statues, when completed, are to be placed on separate granite pedestals and affixed to the three polished granite benches in the rear of the fountain.

It was agreed by the Parks and Recreation Commission, the Art Commission and the Mayor that these figures are acceptable.

It was also agreed that the three circular drip pans, on which the sculpture figures were originally to be placed, are not to be placed on the pool. New plans have been developed and accepted showing water flowing into the pool from a new type of design affixed on the circular granite base of the pools to which will be attached colored lights. The sculptor is to notify the two commissions when the new type of installation is available for viewing.

After the meeting in the sculptors' studios, the Parks and Recreation Commission adjourned to 33 Beacon Street for the regular meeting of the Commission.

It was voted unanimously that the new fountain and surrounding plaza on Boston Common be named the "Parkman Plaza", or the "George F. Parkman Plaza", whichever name in the opinion of the architect is more appropriate.

It was also voted that the architect be instructed to have an inscription cut in on the base of the tallest flagpole which would include the following information: the name of the Plaza, the name of the Honorable John B. Hynes, Mayor of Boston, the full names of the five Parks and Recreation commissioners, and the date of construction of the plaza.

12/10/59

Drinan Property--Fairview Cemetery

VOTED: To postpone decision on purchase of the so-called Drinan Property, for future development of Fairview Cemetery in Hyde Park, until after a report on the hearing regarding the taking of this land, scheduled to be held on December 9th at the office of the Public Improvement Commission, has been received by the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Mary P. C. Cummings Estate,--
High Voltage Corporation

VOTED: To take no action on request of High Voltage Corporation for purchase of a small parcel of land on the Mary P. C. Cummings Estate until such time as an appraisal of said parcel has been received from the Law Department.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:40 p. m.


Secretary

December 29, 1959

A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at the office of the Commission, 33 Beacon Street, Boston, today, at 10:40 a. m.

Present: Commissioner Frank R. Kelley and Associate Commissioners Daniel G. O'Connor, Thomas J. Carty, O. Phillip Snowden and Harry J. Blake.

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted without reading.

Parkman Plaza, Boston Common

VOTED: Unanimously, on motion of Commissioner O'Connor, seconded by Commissioner Carty, that an inscription showing the names of His Honor Mayor John B. Hynes, members of the Parks and Recreation Commission, the Chief Engineer of the Parks and Recreation Department, the architect, and the sculptors be sandblasted and cut in to the center monument of the Parkman Plaza on Lafayette Mall, Boston Common.

VOTED: On motion of Commissioner Snowden, seconded by Commissioner Blake, that the poem referring to Boston, composed by His Honor John B. Hynes, be inscribed at a suitable location on Parkman Plaza, either on the center monument or on a separate granite slab at a location selected by the architect and the sculptor.

Charlesgate West--
Elpanco, Inc.

VOTED: Unanimously to grant the request of Atty. Hirsh Freed for an extension of time to December 31, 1960, for fulfillment of the agreement made by Elpanco, Inc. to cover the walls of the two existing buildings numbered respectively 6 Charlesgate West and 1161 Boylston Street, Boston, with brick veneer or to construct a new building between the same.

Boston Common Underground Garage

Mr. Kerr, Chief Legal Assistant in the Law Department, who was present at today's meeting, reported that he had attended the hearing before the Supreme Court (five justices sitting) on the "Ten Taxpayers' Suit" brought to restrain the Garage Authority from starting construction of the Boston Common Underground Garage

for the reason that these taxpayers believe the seizure of part of Boston Common by eminent domain, for garage construction purposes, was illegal. Present also in court were Mr. Ferrick of the Garage Authority, and Attorney Paul Waite representing the ten taxpayers. Mr. Kerr reported that no decision was rendered by the Court on the right of the Authority to proceed under eminent domain and that the Court has the matter under advisement.

Land Taking by MDC
Park Lands, So. Boston & Brighton

VOTED: To approve plans and drawings showing land takings in South Boston (Auarium site) and in Brighton (park area bounded by Beacon Street, Chestnut Hill Avenue, Commonwealth Avenue and Chestnut Hill Reservoir), prepared by the Metropolitan District Commission under authority granted by Chapter 240 of the Acts of 1959.

Holland Playground--Lowell School Site

The Commission was informed that the City Council unanimously approved an order, on December 21, 1959, authorizing the interchange of park and school lands known as the Holland Playground and the Lowell School Site, and that His Honor the Mayor approved the order on December 22, 1959.

Girls' High School Site, W. Newton Street

The Commission was informed that the City Council in meeting of December 21, 1959, approved the transfer of \$50,000 to the Parks and Recreation Department for the purpose of acquiring and razing the unused Girls High School building on West Newton Street, South End. The site of the building is to be developed as a play area when funds for such development are made available.

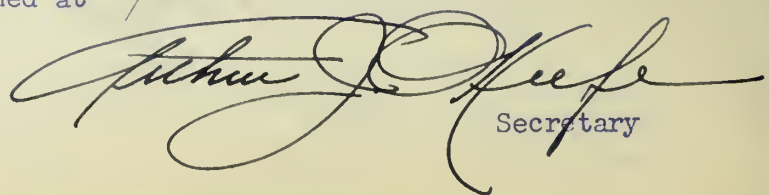
Building Permits referred to Parks and Recreation Department by the Building Department for approval:

- 17 Arlington Street, Boston - Change occupancy to three retail stores on first floor and four apartments on second, third, fourth and fifth floors, and 1½-story show window addition. Request of Huyard Realty. APPROVED.

Contracts - Time Extended for Completion

1. Resodding and Seeding of Tees and Fairways at George Wright Golf Course, Hyde Park, Mass. Contractor: Transit Seeding, Inc., 139 Providence Street, Hyde Park. Extended to June 1, 1960.
2. Playground Improvements at McConnell Park, Dorchester, Mass. Contractor: Wogan Lawn Service of Manchester, Inc., Elm Street, Manchester, Mass. Time extended to June 1, 1960.
3. Roofing and Metal Work at the Gymnasium Building, Paris Street, East Boston, Mass. Contractor: John J. Hourihan, 27 Dixwell Street, Roxbury, Mass. Time extended to January 29, 1960.
4. Asphalt Surfacing of Roadways in Arnold Arboretum, West Roxbury, Mass. Contractor: Old Colony Construction Co. of Quincy, Vernon Street, Quincy, Mass. Time extended to June 1, 1960.

The meeting was adjourned at


Secretary

